FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 053 *17 March 1983*

ARGENTINA

LA PRENSA Praises Reagan 'Democracy' Program [12 Mar] B 1
Editor Forecasts U.S. Reaction to Bignone Speech [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 16 Mar] B 1
Group Claims Thatcher Bomb, School Threats B 2
Foreign Ministry Surprised at Israeli Reaction [CLARIN 16 Mar] B 4
LA NACION Interviews Wehbe on New Measures [15 Mar] B 4
Manrique Proclaimed Presidential Candidate B 6
Parana Still Rising, Bignone To Visit Area [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 16 Mar] B 6
Briefs: Ambassador to Portugal Resigns; B 6
Fonplata $7.1 Million Loan; Air France Resumes Flights; Oil Platform for Egypt; New Naval Vessels; New Under Secretary; Oil Production; GNP Decrease; February Treasury Deficit B 7

BOLIVIA

COB Leaders Receive USSR Union Officials C 1
Economic Plan Ready, Session Delayed by Protests C 1
MNRI Faction Seeks Government Reformation C 2

BRAZIL

CMN Approves Six-Point Economic Package [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 11 Mar] D 1
Central Bank President Comments D 1
Twenty-Two Elected State Governors Assume Office D 2
Navy Minister on Succession [JORNAL DO BRASIL 16 Mar] D 3
Transition Period Assessed D 4
New Governors Listed D 4

CHILE

Opposition Group Issues Call for Plebiscite E 1
New Multiparty Political Group Established E 1
Central Bank Issues New Currency Restrictions E 2
Government Justifies Measures Against Priests E 3
Australia Questions Expulsion E 4

COLOMBIA

Government Grants Funds for Security, Development [EL ESPECTADOR 9 Mar] F 1
ORP Threatens To Execute Kidnapped U.S. Executive [EL TIEMPO 10 Mar] F 2
FARC Leader 'Tirofijo' Receives Amnesty F 2

ECUADOR

Accumulated Crude Sold; Outlook Good for New Well G 1
Impact of OPEC Price Cut on Budget Viewed G 1

PARAGUAY

Resck Grants Interview to Brazilian Newspaper H 1
[ABC COLOR 15 Mar]
National Delegations To Brazilian Inaugurations H 1
[LA TRIBUNA 15 Mar]

PERU

Economy Minister on Foreign Debt Renegotiation J 1
Defense Committee To Investigate Arms Deal J 1
Government Not To Sign Law of Sea Convention J 2
Judge Issues Warrant for Arrest of General J 2
[EL DIARIO DE MARKA 4 Mar]

URUGUAY

Democratic Convergence President on Struggle K 1
[Havana]
New Colorado Party Executive Board Formed K 2
Briefs: Benefits of Oil Price Reduction K 2

VENEZUELA

Government 'Temporarily' Suspends Energy Credits L 1
Further Report L 1
President Herrera Reaffirms Faith in OPEC L 1
[OPECNA]
Energy Minister on Private Visit to Spain L 2

MEXICO

Sepulveda Ends Visit to Spain, Departs M 1
Municipality Offices Taken Over in Chiapas M 2
[UNOMASUNO 14 Mar]
Newspaper Charges U.S. Religious Manipulation M 2
[EXCELSIOR 9 Mar]

PANAMA

Illueca Returns From New Delhi Nonaligned Summit N 1
[MATUTINO 16 Mar]
Dominican Leftists Praise 'Struggle' for Canal N 1
[LA REPUBLICA 13 Mar]
Havana Report N 2
Briefs: Nicaraguan Opposition Leader; N 2
Ambassadors Present Credentials;
New Newspaper Published

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Government Designates High Commissioner to UK P 1

COSTA RICA

Mexico Offers Continued Cooperation, Support P 1
Minister Says Pastora's Words Compromise Country P 1
Nicaraguan Refugees Request Asylum, Aid P 2
Government Outlaws Environmental Association P 2

EL SALVADOR

Power Outages Continue in Several Departments P 3
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 16 Mar]
Court To Retry U.S. Nuns' Alleged Murderers P 3
Former Head of Human Rights Committee Killed P 3
Radio Venceremos Reports on FMLN Activities P 4
Actions in San Vicente P 4
'New Electoral Farces' Rejected P 4
Amnesty, Peace Commission Derided P 5
Havana: FMLN Continues Harassment of Army P 5
Havana Reports Large Antiguerrilla Operation P 6

GUATEMALA

Rift With U.S. Over AID Employee Deaths Denied P 6
Rios Montt Views on Justice, Foreign Policy P 6
[Madrid EL PAIS 16 Mar]
President Declares State of Emergency for Storm P 7
FUR Plans Pilgrimage To Honor Murdered Leader P 7
Party Withdraws From Multiparty Organization P 7

HONDURAS

Deputies React to Proposal To Train Salvadorans P 8
Government Denies Foreign Minister Meeting Plans P 10

NICARAGUA

FDN Group Rejects Criticism of Eden Pastora P 10
[San Pedro Sula TIEMPO 15 Mar]
ARDE Promises 'Powerful' Action Against Regime P 11
Tirado Lopez Speaks on Socialist Construction P 11
[BARRICADA 27 Feb]
Tinoco: Nonaligned Unity Reaffirmed at Summit P 13
LATE REPORT: FDN Outlines Opposition to Junta P 13
[San Jose LA NACION 9 Mar]

CUBA

Havana on 'Expanded U.S. Espionage Activities' Q 1
Castro Praises Grenada on Fourth Anniversary Q 2
U.S. Tries To Gain Time in SALT Negotiations Q 2
Malmierca Ends Visit to Hungary, Off to Spain Q 4
Hart Meets With Spanish Prime Minister Q 4
U.S. Support for 200-Mile Jurisdiction Scored Q 4

CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Health Minister Asks U.S. To Increase Aid S 1

ARUBA

Agreement Calls for Separate Status in 1986 S 1

BARBADOS

Dismissed Secretary Leroy Sisnett Reappointed S 2
Newspaper Defends CBI Against Taitt's Charges S 2
[ADVOCATE-NEWS 8 Mar]
Trade With Caricom Increase by $11.2 Million S 4

BERMUDA

Shadow Minister Quits Over Rift With Leadership S 5

GRENADA

Government Calls Reagan Statement 'Provocative' S 5

JAMAICA

First Bauxite Shipment Sent to USSR 9 March S 6
[DAILY GLEANER 9 Mar]

GUYANA

WPA Criticizes Decision To Cut Food Imports T 1
PPP Blames Country's Poor Economy on Crime T 1
Court Frees Three Men Charged With Treason T 2
Briefs: Energy Minister T 2

LA PRENSA PRAISES REAGAN 'DEMOCRACY' PROGRAM

PY161428 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Mar 83 section 2 p 1

[Editorial: "Plan for Democracy"]

[Text] The United States is getting ready to put into operation the project announced by President Reagan last June and named "Plan for Democracy," aimed at strengthening this type of government in the entire world, a plan he considers to be very important for U.S. foreign policy. Secretary of State George Shultz, upon requesting $65 million from Congress for the 1984 fiscal year, explained that this is an educational plan which will be implemented by USIS through training local leaders to strengthen democratic institutions, transferring ideas and information, and establishing close links between U.S. organizations and individuals and their counterparts in other countries.

The secretary of state emphasized to the U.S. legislators that the "Plan for Democracy" will not be imposed by force anywhere in the world and that the participation in the plan will be totally voluntary. He said, as an example, that a government might prevent people from coming to the United States to participate in projects related to this plan or prevent any project related to it from being implemented in the country.

One cannot but agree with the basic principles to implement this program, considering that the progress of democracy is essential to attain such basic objectives as peace, prosperity and respect for human rights. It should also be recognized that the defenders of democracy need help in countries where democracy is not respected, and this help could be provided through already established democracies. Shultz said: "Thus support should be provided openly; there is no reason why we should feel inhibited to support what we believe is the best system of government."

This plan, outlined as a program for dissemination of democratic ideas, cannot be resisted by people who love freedom or accepted with reservations as if it were a way to impose a certain dominance in the international field. In this regard, it is interesting to observe the reaction in the Soviet Union: TASS attacked it by labeling it as one more link of "a chain of subversive measures of an ideological nature" being forged against the socialist bloc. This opinion among the men in Moscow is not surprising, because what is at stake is a lifestyle and a government system totally contrary to the totalitarian idea of communism.

EDITOR FORECASTS U.S. REACTION TO BIGNONE SPEECH

PY162051 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Mar 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Washington Displeased"]

[Text] Public reaction to President Reynaldo Bignone's now famous New Delhi speech, and to the "non-aligned" statement to which Argentina subscribed, has been as one might have expected. Individuals who make verbal "anti-imperialism" one of their stock in trades have gloated over the sudden change in the military regime's foreign policy while simultaneously relishing the regime's manifest embarrassment, and unreconstructed anti-Marxists have deplored the president's betrayal of a cause he and many of his brother officers have been identified with for a good many years.

A more thoughtful reaction came from former foreign minister Oscar Camilion, who pointed out what should have been obvious but apparently was not, that when negotiations about the future of the Malvinas start, whoever is then leading Argentina will have to negotiate with Great Britain, not with the "non-aligned," and that the country in the best position to influence Great Britain is the United States. But, as he explained, the Argentine representatives, in their hot pursuit of a few textual changes in a resolution that will change virtually nothing anyway, committed itself to policies in other areas that were bound to infuriate the US. His warning was almost immediately confirmed by none other than State Department spokesman Alan Romberg, who complained that the "non-aligned" declaration was blatantly one-sided, with the US being fiercely criticized for a great many things and the Soviet Union escaping scot-free. As the US has been the target of ferocious diatribes from Third World organizations for years and rarely bothers to respond to them this meant that Washington was far angrier than the relatively mild strictures of Romberg would suggest.

There is no better way of strengthening the position of the intransigents in Great Britain who think the islands should be British-ruled forever than providing them with "evidence" that Argentina is an anti-Western power friendly to Cuba and the Soviet Union. If this impression is encouraged, moreover, many people in Washington may begin to think that a British presence in the South Atlantic is essential for Western defense and therefore well worth whatever unpleasantness it may cause to US-Latin American relations. Bignone's New Delhi stance may, in other words, transform the Malvinas issue into an East-West one. Carillon said he preferred to see it a "North"-"South" question. Thus, far from giving the British some valid reasons for reassessing their current refusal to negotiate he has given them some excellent reasons for becoming even more obstinate. As long as the Malvinas dispute pitted two countries belonging to what is loosely known as the "West" against one another the chances that pragmatists in both Great Britain and the United States would eventually prevail against the Kelpers' lobby and British nationalists were considerable. But setting the country on a foreign-policy course that could lead to increasingly systematic hostility towards Western interests has reduced this possibility and, in consequence, the prospects of the Argentine flag flying over the islands in the not too distant future. This is an extremely stiff price to pay for some ephemeral -- and in large measure illusory -- popularity in certain political circles.

GROUP CLAIMS THATCHER BOMB, SCHOOL THREATS

PY170314 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0240 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Mar (DYN) -- An alleged organization "2 April" [Dos de Abril] which also identifies itself as "Captain Giacchino Group, Direct Action Command," today claimed responsibility for the letter bomb addressed to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher which, this organization said, "was mailed right from London."

In an anonymous call to DYN, one of the members of the organization, who identified himself as "C-2" said that the members of the terrorist group has planned attacks on British schools and institutions in Argentina and that it will also carry out "direct actions" against the British forces in the Malvinas Islands.

The person who made the anonymous call talked with a DYN editor for several minutes displaying a good cultural level and seemed without concern that his call might be intercepted or traced.

In addition to providing information, the individual answered all the questions asked and showed that he knew quite well what he was talking about without leaving "holes" or being hesitant in his answers.

"C-2" said that "because we arrived today," allegedly from abroad, "we had no time to contact all the newspapers" to take responsibility for the letter bomb attack on the British prime minister, which was intercepted by British intelligence services.

He added: "All of the schools which are sponsored by the British Government such as the English Cultural League [Liga Cultural Inglesa] and other schools -- which we are now checking -- will have to end their school term before the end of March... They must close."

Asked if he was referring to schools in Buenos Aires, he said: "Of course...either by hook or by crook. We already notified them today. Perhaps they took it as a hoax but they are going to be scared to death," he threatened.

This is the complete conversation with a DYN editor:

C-2: We have sent the letter addressed to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, a letter which was unfortunately intercepted.

DYN: Could you give me another clue?

C-2: It was published by all newspapers, but since we arrived today we did not have the time to get in touch yesterday. This is the 2 April movement.

DYN: Did you send the letter from here?

C-2: No, we sent it from the British capital itself. We are also the ones who sent a letter to the U.S. Navy delegation in London. We spoiled their fun. All of the schools which are sponsored by the British Government, such as the English Cultural League and other schools -- which we are now checking -- will have to end their school term before the end of March. They must close...

DYN: Here in Buenos Aires?

C-2: Of course, either by hook or by crook...we have already notified them. Perhaps they took it as a hoax, but they will be scared to death and it will be very unfortunate for them.

DYN: Are you connected with other movements that bear the same name?

C-2: No, we are the "Captain Ciacchino" group, that is, the Direct Action Command. We have nothing to do, not at all, with any labor movement. We are a group of Argentines who are struggling against Britain to recover the Malvinas, and we will recover them one way or the other. We have people in London, Madrid and so...we will achieve something. We do not burn flags because we believe that it is foolish and that it leads nowhere. It is a piece of rag. To burn the effigy of the "old whore" is not justified, but to send a letter bomb is justified, because, sooner or later, we will blow her head off. Do you understand?

DYN: Do you plan some action in the Malvinas?

C-2: Yes, of course. Tomorrow I will give you some information. I am C-2 and tomorrow I will call you up and give you a piece of information. They will not be able to stop this.

C-2 finally asked for the creation of a "state solidarity" with this terrorist movement and, after courteously bidding goodbye, he hung up.

FOREIGN MINISTRY 'SURPRISED' AT ISRAELI REACTION

PY161838 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 16 Mar 83 p 12

[Text] The Argentine Foreign Ministry last night announced that the remarks which Israeli Ambassador Dov Schmorak made yesterday morning on President Reynaldo Bignone's speech in New Delhi and on his meeting with Yasir 'Arafat, had caused "surprise" and were being analyzed.

The Israeli diplomat met with Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari and said upon leaving the meeting that "certain portions" of Bignone's speech had caused "concern" in his government, referring to the parts of the presidential speech which dealt with the Middle East and the Palestinian issue.

Oscar Fernandez Suarez, Foreign Ministry press secretary, last night admitted that the remarks of the Israeli ambassador had surprised the officials of the Foreign Ministry and that these officials were currently studying these remarks.

LA NACION INTERVIEWS WEHBE ON NEW MEASURES

PY170123 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 15 Mar 83 pp 1, 6

[Text] During an exclusive interview granted to LA NACION, Economy Minister Wehbe announced a series of measures to be adopted in order to overcome the current situation marked by disproportionate price increases, high cost of loans in the interbanking market and steep increase in the dollar exchange rate on the black market.

Price guidelines for leading enterprises will be established so that the yearly inflation rate does not surpass 160 percent by the end of the year as called for in the original economic program. State-owned enterprises will also have to adjust to the same guidelines regarding the tariffs they charge, except in the case of fuels.

The minister pointed out that the cost of regulated-interest loans to the leading enterprises will be reduced by approximately 2 percent points per month and that the Central Bank will make available a line of rediscount for banks so that new loans can be made to enterprises, on the basis of their payroll.

Minister Wehbe said that nothing similar to a "regulated exchange rate" would be adopted and that the exchange rate will increase along with price increases. He ended by pointing out that he believed that the labor-management arbitration board should establish salaries, except for the minimum salary, and he also admitted that some problems have come up with foreign banks over the renegotiation of the Argentine private sector's foreign debt.

Yesterday Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe disclosed to LA NACION the financial measures which the government is going to implement since it considers that current interest rates which enterprises have to pay for new loans are too high.

In the first place, the cost of regulated-interest loans to be made available to the 1,000 leading enterprises that will be subject to price regulation, will be reduced by a couple of percent points per month. Moreover, the Central Bank will establish a line of rediscount for new loans which will be based on the enterprises' payroll. The rediscount line is intended to keep loan demands from pushing interest rates up.

A high-ranking Central Bank authority explained to LA NACION that "these loans will be granted based on the enterprises' payroll, but not to be used for salary payments. The enterprises will have to use the loans in other ways, as they deem best." The cost of these payroll-based loans will be even lower than the aforementioned reduced-cost loans granted at a regulated interest rate. The total amount of this credit line is yet to be established.

The price guidelines -- which leading enterprises have to abide by to obtain the aforementioned cheap loans -- will establish figures so that the yearly inflation rate by the end of the year will be 160 percent, as established in the original economic program.

When a LA NACION journalist commented that it seemed quite unlikely that the inflation target would be met considering the inflation rate registered in January and February, Minister Wehbe said there would be no problem. The minister pointed out that "90 percent of the monetary program is being fulfilled and that the prospect for the balance of payments is better than expected. Our only problem is the disproportionate price increase."

LA NACION asked Minister Wehbe whether the threats of establishing maximum prices had not been responsible for price increases.

The minister admitted frankly: Yes, that could have been a mistake.

In order not to surpass the 160 percent yearly interest rate by the end of this year, prices as of April must not increase by more than an average rate of 6.9 percent per month, since wholesale prices during the months of January and February have already increased by 31.1 percent and this rate could rise to 42.9 percent if prices in March increase by 9 percent (according to an optimistic estimate).

The price guidelines which the Economy Ministry will disclose in the next few days will also include utility rates. The minister pointed out "that state-owned enterprises will be subject to the same regulations as private enterprises" so the task of readjusting utility rates, which was started by the present government, will be completed.

The price guidelines only exclude fuel prices which, according to the IMF communique, should increase by 7.9 percent in real terms during the first 3 months of the year and by 3.2 percent by March 1984.

The minister pointed out that the price guidelines will not include the exchange rate which will continue to increase apace with prices. He pointed out that the "adoption of price guidelines" does not mean that the price indexes will automatically be equal to the price guidelines; the exchange rate will follow the prices indexes' trend, not the price guidelines. The minister thus dismissed the possibility of establishing a "controlled exchange rate."

No definite decisions seem to have been made yet regarding salaries. Apparently the minister believes that the labor-management arbitration boards should establish the salaries, with the exception of the minimum salary. However the labor minister does not believe this is feasible just yet.

When Minister Wehbe was asked about the high spread which some foreign banks intend to charge to renegotiate the private Argentine foreign debts which have been taken over by the Central Bank he admitted that this is a serious problem. He pointed out that several banks have fully cooperated to grant us a bridge loan and to renegotiate our foreign debt but they have no right to charge such a high spread. We will have to find a solution to this problem.

MANRIQUE PROCLAIMED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY161740 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0155 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Rosario, 15 Mar (TELAM) -- Francisco Guillermo Manrique, head of the Federal Party, today was proclaimed candidate for the presidency of the republic for the forthcoming elections.

His candidacy was proclaimed during the meeting of the Federal Party's Santa Fe Provincial Board held in Rosario. The meeting was presided over by Santa Fe Secretary General Enr'que Olive. The need to return to the federal sources of our Constitution -- an essential requirement for the construction of a modern nation -- was stressed during this meeting.

The meeting was held at party headquarters in Rosario. Several representatives from this city and from other towns in the province attended the meeting.

PARANA STILL RISING, BIGNONE TO VISIT AREA

PY162105 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Mar 83 p 7

[Text] Santa Fe -- The Parana River reached 6.98 metres at the local port yesterday and press spokesmen at the provincial government house said that Army and official trucks are standing by at Alto Verde District to implement the compulsory evacuation order as soon as it comes through. Some 5,000 residents still refuse to leave their homes for fear of having their belongings stolen.

It was announced yesterday evening that President Reynaldo Bignone will travel to Santa Fe next Friday. After flying over the flooded areas he will meet with the governors of the five provinces affected by the floods in order to expedite federal government help.

The defences built to protect Santa Fe are deteriorating visibly so that the situation is expected to worsen during the next few days when the high point of the flood is expected to arrive. If the 7.5 metre peak actually happens, around 50,000 people will have to be evacuated. The water is already gushing out into central parts of the city through the drain system. Meanwhile, the situation is getting worse for the inhabitants of the Guadalupe neighbourhood because the embankments are about to give way under the tremendous pressure.

In Parana, the authorities have taken measures to reopen routes 12 and 168 which had been cut by the flood. But Villa Paranacito, in Entre Rios, is the district facing the most danger right now. It was blocked off from the rest of the province on Monday and the electric system was put out when a column fell in Arroyo Grande, the auxiliary generator is on the verge of being reached by the water. Residents of Paranacito have to go by river to Zarate to get provisions.

Up north in Resistencia and Barranqueras civil defence authorities feel that the peak expected during the next few days may not be as serious as previously estimated since the level has fallen in the upstream sections of the Iguazu and Paraguay Rivers.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL RESIGNS -- Buenos Aires, 23 Feb (DYN) -- Diplomatic sources have revealed that Argentine Ambassador to Portugal Carlos Enrique Gomez Centurion has resigned in order to participate in political activity. He is returning to Buenos Aires next week. [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1832 GMT 23 Feb 83 PY]

FONPLATA $7.1 MILLION LOAN -- Montevideo, 24 Feb (AFP) -- Bolivian Central Bank President Luis Viscarra Cruz, who is presiding over a meeting of the financial fund for River Plate Basin Development (Fonplata) being held here, has announced that Fonplata has granted a $7.1 million loan to Argentina. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1538 GMT 24 Feb 83 PY]

AIR FRANCE RESUMES FLIGHTS -- Buenos Aires, 16 Feb (TELAM) -- On 18 February, the French airline Air France resumed its arrivals at Ezaiza international airport, which were suspended during the Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Southern Archipelago. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1815 GMT 18 Feb 83 PY]

OIL PLATFORM FOR EGYPT -- Buenos Aires, 17 Feb (TELAM) -- The oil exploration platform W B Tyson, which was entirely built in the Corrientes S.A. shipyards in the city of Corrientes, has already been delivered to Alexandria, Egypt. The platform, which was finished at the end of 1982, will be set up in the Mediterranean. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2150 GMT 17 Feb 83 PY]

NEW NAVAL VESSELS -- The Rio Santiago shipyard is building the first of six Corvettes that will be commissioned into the Argentine Navy. The Corvette's technical data are: displacement; 1.7 million tons [as heard]: overall length; 91.2 m: draft at full load; 3.13 m: speed; 27 knots. The Corvette will carry two turrets with two 40/70 Breda machineguns each, one 76/62 Oto Melara gun, a LM 38 Exocet missile system and two triple torpedo tube mounts. The Corvette will also be able to carry a helicopter. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 24 Feb 83 PY]

NEW UNDER SECRETARY -- Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (TELAM) -- Horacio Martin Fernandez has been appointed under secretary of defense replacing Jorge A. Monzo who resigned for health reasons. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1330 GMT 7 Mar 83 PY]

OIL PRODUCTION -- Government oil deposits has reported that oil production during February 1983 increased 6.7 percent compared to the same month in 1982. Total oil production during February 1983 was 2,128,181 cubic meters. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 11 Mar 83 PY]

GDP DECREASE -- Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (DYN) -- The gross domestic product decreased 5.7 percent during 1982. This represents a decrease of about 12 percent in economic activity over the last 2 years. [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1032 GMT 4 Mar 83 PY]

FEBRUARY TREASURY DEFICIT -- The deficit of the National Treasury amounted to 7,661,336,000,000 pesos in February, 6 percent higher in real terms than February 1982. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2350 GMT 14 Mar 83 PY]

COB LEADERS RECEIVE USSR UNION OFFICIALS

PY170213 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] The leaders of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) today received a visit from several USSR union leaders to discuss various issues.

At the end of the meeting with the Soviet Union leaders, Juan Lechin Oquendo, secretary general of the COB, said that the visitors had voiced their desire to cooperate in the reconstruction of the headquarters of the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia (FSTMB).

Lechin Oquendo pointed out that the COB leaders instructed the Soviet visitors that this interest should be expressed directly to the FSTMB. He also disclosed that the Soviet delegation invited two COB leaders to attend Labor Day celebrations in Moscow on 1 May. Oquendo disclosed that the delegation offered (?three) scholarships for higher studies in the Soviet Union as well as the air fare for (?12) Bolivian leaders to attend a 35-day course [word indistinct].

Oquendo also pointed out that the COB leaders briefed the Soviet visitors on the current Bolivian situation and that the visitors in turn stated that their greatest concerns are stopping the arms race and that the construction of plants for the manufacture of nuclear arms should decrease [words indistinct] a threat to Europe and the entire world. He also stated that the USSR union leaders had reiterated their solidarity with the people's struggle for liberation and [word indistinct] support to the Salvadoran, Nicaraguan and the Palestinian people.

Lechin Oquendo then stated that the COB voiced its gratitude to the Soviet workers for the support they granted Bolivia through their organizations [words indistinct].

ECONOMIC PLAN READY, SESSION DELAYED BY PROTESTS

PY170150 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0112 GMT 17 Mar 83

[Relay from Government House by (Daniel Alarcon Morales)]

[Text] The cabinet meeting has just ended. President Siles Zuzo is now leaving Government House, where Planning and Coordination Minister Arturo Nunez del Prado and the economic team will announce, within a few minutes, the new economic measures which will be enacted by six decrees. The announcement will be made during a press conference that will be held at the Mirror Hall at Government House.

We should remark that just some minutes ago, the Government House was invaded by tear gas that was used against university students who demonstrated at (Murillo) Square in support of La Paz judicial branch employees who have gone on strike to protest against two members of the La Paz Supreme Court.

The press conference could not be held as scheduled -- it was scheduled for 1930 -- because of the gas. Meanwhile, we will continue waiting for the conference. The ministers have not yet arrived at the Mirror Hall, because they are still exchanging views and gathering the information that they will release during the press conference. We expect that we will learn about the new measures in the next few minutes.

MNRI FACTION SEEKS GOVERNMENT REFORMATION

PY161622 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] The National Left faction of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] believes that an overall national accord is necessary to overcome the current crisis. In view of the gravity of the situation it is no longer enough to reassemble the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity]. A great accord of all national leftwing sectors must be sought with cooperation from all spheres of power of the nation within a democratic and institutional framework, in order to overcome the political crisis and to find solutions to the constantly worsening economic problems which are plunging the people into anguish and desperation, according to the communique released by Abel Ayoroa Argandona, member of the Executive Board of the MNRI faction.

[Begin Ayoroa recording] The UDP which we set up in April 1978 on the basis of clear-cut national left ideology has been split up by a group of leaders which joined the MNRI much later. This group draws its support only from the prestige of Hernan Siles Zuazo, a prestige that comes from 7 years of struggle against Banzer's dictatorship and from his open opposition to the coup d'etat of 17 July 1980. Having no party organization or political influence among the rank and file, this group has sought to encircle President Siles Zuazo. Nowadays the UDP no longer has the political or managerial means to cope with the serious national and international problems. The ruling faction of the MNRI is no longer the strongest sector within the coalition. This is the reason for the political and economic failure of both the UDP and the MNRI which has negative effects on the workers and the democratic process. [end recording]

The National Left faction of the MNRI feels that a political solution must be obtained through an overall national consensus free from personal, factional or group interests; the only goal being to protect the nation from the worst crisis in its history. Even though this crisis has its roots in the cycle of defacto governments which started with the 1964 military coup d'etat, it must not be allowed to bring the nation closer to ungovernable situations by each day. Using the slogan "hunger does not wait," the UDP government set for itself a 100-day deadline for things to get better. However, the economic crisis is getting worse and the purchasing power of the salaries is constantly declining, the communique stated.

[Begin Ayoroa recording] When the UDP took over the government, it announced that it had secured foreign financing which would allow it to reactivate production, to maintain and increase the rate of employment and, above all, to no longer hurt the purchasing power of the workers. It also promised to implement in full the UDP economic program, which included the minimum wage and the flexible wage scale. After more than 5 months of the current regime, no foreign loans have been received and no financial support has been obtained. The economic plan which the UDP submitted to the people during the electoral period has not been put into effect. On the contrary, the official rate of exchange for the U.S. dollar has been increased from 40 to 200 Bolivian pesos without there being enough foreign currency to support this measure, thus causing an extraordinary increase in the exchange rate of the parallel market. A maelstrom of improvisations and the lack of decision has left the people at the mercy of speculators and hoarders, proving once again that the government has no power to stop all these outrages. There is no minimum wage, which every government must set up periodically in compliance with the general labor law. There are no prospects that the productive apparatus may be reactivated. On the contrary, various sources of jobs are now running the risk of being closed down, thus threatening to increase unemployment and worsen the economic recession. [end recording]

CMN APPROVES SIX-POINT ECONOMIC PACKAGE

PY161211 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Mar 83 p 24

[Text] After an over-the-phone consultation session, the National Monetary Council (CMN) yesterday approved a six-point package aimed at bringing down interest rates and putting an end to speculation in gold, dollars and paper money. The objective of the package is to maintain the confidence of the public in savings accounts. The measures will not oblige banks to directly reduce the cost of money on the internal market. The only new requirement is that, from now on, the annual rate that is actually charged must be specified in all loan contracts and must be thoroughly publicized. The measures are described below.

1. The tourist dollar system will be abolished since, starting today, the 25 percent IOF [financial operation tax] on dollar sales will no longer be applied. The obligation to send, through a money order, the dollars purchased by travellers to the country of destination will also be lifted. Dollars can now be carried in cash or "travellers checks." While the amount that can be bought at the official rate will be reduced from $2,000 to $1,000. The $500 ceiling for thsoe who travel to Latin and Central America has been maintained.

2. The fluctuation in the exchange rate and in the monetary correction will be brought into line with the general price index, that is, with the inflation rate.

3. Five-year maturity ORTN's [National Readjustable Treasury Notes] with optional exchange rate readjustment or monetary coorection and an 8 percent annual interest rate will be issued starting 16 March 1983.

4. The highest interest rates that banks will be allowed to charge for the refinancing of debts arising from the maxidevaluation and incurred by small and medium-size enterprises that contracted foreign loans will be 12 percent plus monetary correction. These loans will not be taken into account when computing the credit expansion ceiling.

5. The inclusion of real annual interest rates in loan contracts and in other financial documents will be made compulsory. The weekly publication of those interest rates in newspapers with nationwide circulation will also be made compulsory.

6. The ceiling for the expansion of credit for the second quarter will be as follows: investment banks, 20 percent of their first quarter balance; banks that do not operate with foreign currency, 18 percent; small banks that operate with foreign currency, 14 percent; medium-size and large banks that operate with foreign currency, 12 percent.

These measures were adopted after countless meetings held by Planning Minister Delfim Netto, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas, some of their assistants and the directors of the Central Bank and of the Banco do Brasil at Government House beginning last Monday. The package was disclosed only early in the evening and minutes before it was released even some of Minister Galveas' closest advisers had no information on it.

Central Bank President Comments

PY161245 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Mar 83 p 18

[Undated "note" issued by Central Bank President Carlos Langoni commenting on National Monetary Council measures; no place given]

[Text] With these measures, the government defines the rules of the game for influencing interest rates without resorting to artificial measures, but rather by trying to attack the real causes of the problem.

In the first place, the government reduces the degree of uncertainty regarding the foreign exchange policy inasmuch as the National Monetary Council [CMN] clearly states that the devaluation of the cruzeiro will not be higher than the internal inflation rate and makes it clear that the bonus credit [credito premio, export incentive through tax refunds] is being absorbed or incorporated into the exchange rate since no discount is made for overseas inflation.

In the second place, to reinforce confidence in the minidevaluation system, the Central Bank will again operate with ORTN's [National Treasury Readjustable Notes] subject to foreign exchange correction at 8 percent interest for 5 years, thus giving more flexibility to the monetary policy.

In the third place, by clearly stating that the monetary correction will fully reflect the inflation rate, stimulus is provided for voluntary savings, especially in public bonds subject to indexation, and in passbook savings accounts.

By making monetary correction and foreign exchange correction equal, foreign loans will become more attractive, thus creating conditions for bringing domestic and foreign interest rates closer into line.

This is a natural market solution, without resorting to regulating domestic interest rates, which has proved ineffective before.

In the fourth place, to ease the process of bringing domestic interest rates down, the CMN is ordering financial institutions to make public the borrowing and ledning rates they charge.

Another important measure is the one requiring that financial institutions refinance, at a preferential rate of monetary correction plus 12 percent, the increased debt of small and medium-sized enterprises resulting from the maxidevaluation.

This measure should ease the process of readjustment in those enterprises which now represent a considerable segment of the country's productive forces, and which have always deserved the government's special attention.

TWENTY-TWO ELECTED STATE GOVERNORS ASSUME OFFICE

PY161503 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Excerpts] All 22 governors elected on 15 November 1982 assumed their offices yesterday. Twelve of these governors belong to the PDS [Social Democratic Party], 9 to the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party], and 1 to the PDT [Democratic Labor Party].

In addition to Sao Paulo, the governors of Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, Parana, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Goias, Matto Grosso do Sul, Amazonas, Bahia, Rio Grande do Norte, Matto Grosso, Para, Sergipe, Alagoas, Maranhao, Piaui, Parabia, Ceara, Espiritu Santo, Parnambuco and Acre were installed yesterday.

The military commanders did not attend the inauguration of any of the governors, whether of the PDS or of the opposition. Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca explained that this decision was adopted lest the military presence be interpreted as an expression of approval or disapproval. The Navy minister added that this decision not to attend the inauguration ceremonies was also approved by the government through the consent of President Fieueiredo.

Real popular enthusiasm marked the inauguration of Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola. In addition to the display of fireworks throughout the city, a caravan of taxi drivers transported Brizola and his vice governor to Tiradentes Palace.

In his speech, the new Rio de Janeiro governor disclosed the basic guidelines of his administration; defense of human rights and continuous work for the good of the people.

[Begin Brizola recording] I have come to the government of Rio de Janeiro to work for man. Everything will be very clear. I will try to put all the potential of this state on a new course, not only the efforts of public administration, but I repeat, I will channel all the potential of the state to the benefit of man. [end recording]

An atmosphere of joy also marked the inauguration of former senator Tancredo Neves in Belo Horizonte. The new governor of Minas Gerais stated that the current economic situation in Brazil is critical.

[Begin Neves recording] This is the time for sacrifice. It is under these circumstances that our people show their strength, their mettle, their character and their inflexible resistance. We are not afraid of the challenge, although we are facing a situation adverse to our destiny. By running away from this challenge we would be showing our weakness and cowardice, because we do have the inexhaustible potential of our resurces and the indomitable energy of our people. [end recording]

Upon assuming office as new governor of Sao Paulo, Franco Montoro made a speech confirming the commitments assumed during the electoral campaign.

[Begin Montoro recording] Again, on arriving in the government by force of the will of the people expressed through the ballot boxes, I reaffirm the commitments assumed; a commitment to have democracy prevail both in practice and in decision making within public administration; a commitment to promote the decentralization of the decision making powers, and to encourage the participation of all sectors in matters of common interest [applause]; a commitment to honesty in all government actions [shouts heard in the background] and austerity in the implementation of public services. [applause] [end recording]

Navy Minister on Succession

PY170231 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] As he came out of a meeting with President Joao Figueiredo, Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca said that the Armed Forces will not be involved in politics. The presidential succession will be decided by the politicians under the leadership of the president. Armed Forces officers will be out of it. Haven't you yet understood that the military is returning to its barracks? That's why military officers did not attend the inauguration of any of the new state governors.

The Navy minister also explained that the government had directed the military commanders not to attend to the inauguration of the new governors who were elected on 15 November so as "not to give the impression that they were supporting some of them and discriminating against others. Minister Maximiano said that he would like to see that absence "turned into a rule."

Transition Period Assessed

PY161750 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Carlos Rodrigues commentary relayed from Brasilia]

[Text] The assumption yesterday of the new governors elected on 15 November 1982 marked the end of a generation of appointed governors. The last election for state governors before 1982 was held in 1965, and those elected were installed in March 1966.

During the past 17 years -- which corresponds to 4 terms of appointed governors -- the governors have been elected through indirect vote. In 1965, the victory of PSD [Social Democratic Party] Governors Israel Pinheiro in Minas Gerais and (Negrao de Lima) in Rio de Janeiro caused an institutional crisis which prompted the implementation of Institutional Act No 2. This new stage now beginning in the country should not pass unnoticed. This is a very important period, because it is being observed and analyzed by reporters, congressmen and political observers.

The opening process continues by decision of President Figueiredo or by the pressure exerted by the people, as claimed by the opposition. Whichever the case it is not the most important factor. What matters is that the process continues.

One of the opposition governors -- Tancredo Neves of Minas Gerais -- is playing an important role in this transition period. The aggravation of the economic crisis could accelerate the gradual opening proposed by the government. Neves has warned that his proposal to elect President Figueiredo's successor through consensus is the only way to block the road of Paulo Maluf, one of the firm candidates who is, however, not supported by Planalto Palace and much less by the opposition. Also, it is now believed that President Figueredo's successor may be chosen by direct elections.

New Governors Listed

PY170053 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2000 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 15 Mar (TELAM) -- The governors (13 members of the Social Democratic Party [PDS] and 9 members from opposition parties) of 22 Brazilian states were sworn in today. They were elected on 15 November 1982 during the first direct elections to be held since 1964, when a military coup overthrew the constitutional government of Joao (Jango) Goulart.

Following is the list of 22 governors who were sworn in today: Rio de Janeiro, Leonel Brizola -- Workers Democratic Party [PDT]; Sao Paulo, Franco Montoro -- Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB]; Rio Grande do Sul, Jair Soares -- Social Democratic Party [PDS]; Minas Gerais, Tancredo Neves -- PMDB; Bahia, Joao Durval -- PDS; Pernambuco, Roberto Magalhaes -- PDS; Parana, Jose Richa -- PMDB; Santa Catarina, Esperidiao Amin -- PDS; Acre, Nabor Teles da Rocha Junior -- PMDB; Alagoas, Divaldo Suruagy -- PDS; Amazonas, Gilberto Mestrinho -- PMDB; Goias, Iris Rezende -- PMDB; Maranhao, Luiz Rocha -- PDS; Mato Grosso do Sul, Wilson Barbosa Martins -- PMDB; Para, Jader Fontenelli Barbalho -- PMDB; Paraiba, Wilson Braga -- PDS; Piaui, Hugo Napoleao -- PDS; Rio Grande do Norte, Jose Agripino Maia -- PDS; Sergipe, Joao Alves Filho -- PDS.

[Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese on 16 March on pages 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 reports that the following governors were also installed on 15 March: Ceara, Luize de Gonzaga Fonseca Mota -- PDS; Espirito Santo, Gerson Camata -- PMDB; Mato Grosso, Julio Jose de Campos -- PDS]

OPPOSITION GROUP ISSUES CALL FOR PLEBISCITE

PY161727 Paris AFP in Spanish 0223 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Santiago, 15 Mar (AFP) -- A group that opposes General Augusto Pinochet's regime today stated that in the light of the extremely severe political and economic crisis besieging the nation, a plebiscite must be called to set a new course for the country.

The government cannot continue drawing its support from the 1980 plebiscite that approved the current Constitution and extended president Pinochet's term in office until 1989 because the circumstances are no longer the same, said Engelberto Frias a member of the so-called National Development Project, PRODEN, which has center-right leanings. He said that "in 1980 the nation was enjoying a considerable economic well-being sustained by large foreign debts, a veritable feast. Now we are paying for that mistake." He added that it would suffice to take to the street to find out all about the current situation. The government's duty is to interpret the nation's present needs.

According to Jorge Lavandero, a Christian Democrat and former congressman, Chile is a dependent nation, which owes $21,000,000,000 to 650 foreign banks. He emphasized that in the future it may even lack the money to buy the food it needs. In 1969 Chile had to import 3.5 million quintals of wheat to supplement local production of 13.5 million quintals. Now, these figures have been reserved, Lavandero pointed out. He added that 24 years ago each Chilean consumed 40 kg of sugar and 8.8 liters of oil per year compared to the 26kg and 6.5 liters that each consumes nowadays.

PRODEN announced that it will submit a petition to the military junta, which in Chile plays the role of the legislative branch, to be allowed to discuss with its members the current crisis and a recent proposal to reform the Constitution to grant the junta executive powers and call congressional elections. It was recalled that when this proposal was made 20 days ago, President Pinochet -- who has been in power for 9 years -- ruled out the possibility that the proposal would be considered through legal channels, and warned PRODEN members that their attitude was approaching subversion. PRODEN indicated that "the president has rejected the possibility of studying a constitutional reform, but we insist and will continue to insist on bringing before the government anything that we may consider appropriate so that Chile can achieve peace and harmony by peaceful means amid true and complete democracy. We are not talking about the democracy that President Pinochet advocates but about the democracy recognized by all civilized nations as a political regime where the people exercise their sovereignty through a government chosen by means of a general, free and well-informed vote," PRODEN said.

NEW MULTIPARTY POLITICAL GROUP ESTABLISHED

PY151522 Paris AFP in Spanish 114 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Santiago, 14 Mar (AFP) -- A newly established political group made up of parties from the right, the center, the left and even Marxists said today that only if a participatory democracy is restored will Chile overcome the deep crisis that the country is experiencing under the military regime headed by President Augusto Pinochet.

The group, which goes by the name of the Multiparty Group, said that Chileans want to live in a free society that guarantees the upholding of human rights and which efficient, responsible government officials, who are elected by the people and who comply with the laws and are subjected to controls, join efforts to overcome present problems.

This statement is included in a declaration signed by the leaders of the rightist National Party; the Christian Democratic Party; the Social-Democratic Party; the Radical Party, which is also a party of the center; and the socialist Marxist groups led by Clodomiro Almeyda and Carlos Altamirano. All these parties were outlawed and have been in recess since the military ousted leftist President Salvador Allende in 1973.

The declaration states: The time to react has arrived. Therefore, we appeal to all those who long for freedom, justice and peace to make a great national effort that will lead to the restoration of democracy. It notes that democracy does not mean chaos and that it is through democracy that Chile has achieved development in the past. The Multiparty Group, which is unprecedented since Pinochet's assumption of power, challenges the strict restrictive laws implemented by the military government and the recent official warning. The group also notes that the present crisis Chile is experiencing undermines the nation's moral, political, social and economic bases.

The declaration states that the crisis affects all community sectors, undermines the security of the nation, and makes more acute unjust situations and tensions at the domestic level. The Multiparty Group notes that with a 14-percent decrease in national production, unemployment at 30 percent and a foreign debt surpassing 9 billion, the situation in Chile is devastating.

Moreover, the statement notes that "the universities are intervened by the government, thousands of Chileans are in exile, there is no freedom of expression or of the press. The right to hold meetings is restricted and the unions, professional and social organizations have been subjected to regulations that completely limit their participation in national activities."

It adds: Only democracy can guarantee the proper framework so that the Armed Forces and the police can fulfill their professional tasks and contribute to their development as institutions that have the respect and the support of all sectors.

A spokesman of the new political group said that the Communist (pro-Soviet) Party is not a member of the Multiparty Group, but that it is thinking of joining the group sometime in the future. The spokesman added that the Multiparty Group only excludes the MIR [movement of the Revolutionary Left] and other groups that promote armed struggle against the Pinochet government.

CENTRAL BANK ISSUES NEW CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS

PY151353 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] The amount of U.S. dollars that can be sold to people who travel abroad has been reduced and the Central Bank will now have to authorize import operations of more than $500, while before this restriction applied only to imports worth $3,000 and above. The decisions reached by the central bank executive board were published in today's official gazette.

The first part of the communique deals with the reduction of the U.S. dollar allowance for those who travel to Latin American countries, Curacao, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas, who will receive $200 per month. Before, the allowance had been $300. The allowance will be released as a personal nontransferable order of payment.

For all other countries, the allowance has been reduced from $1,200 per month to $800 per month, also in nontransferable personal orders of payment. According to this system the interested party is allowed to chose the kind of currency he wants only up to 20 percent of the total amount and the rest will be paid out in the currency of the country he is visiting. In the case of neighboring countries and Uruguay, the interested party will be allowed to chose the currency only up to 10 percent of the amount allotted. Furthermore, the Central Bank will now authorize all imports amounting to $500 and above, while before, commercial banks were authorized to handle import operations under $3,000.

GOVERNMENT JUSTIFIES MEASURES AGAINST PRIESTS

PY151744 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Report from La Moneda Palace by (Graciela Contreras)]

[Text] The government has decided to cancel the residence permit in Chile of the Irish priests (Brendan Forde) and (Desmond McGillicudy) and the Australian priest (Brian McMahon) who, shielding themselves behind the cassock, were trying to disturb the atmosphere of internal peace. This is stated in a communique released by the government Social Communications Agency [Dinacos] yesterday afternoon in which, it is said that in view of recent statements originating from the church, the government considers it proper to make the following clarifications regarding the Chilean residence visas for three foreign priests: According to the Chilean legal system, which has been in force for a long time, the law is equal for all those living in the republic, both Chileans and foreigners, and there are no privileges exempting persons or groups of persons from the enforcement of the law. Since the Constitution of 1925, the Chilean state and the Catholic Church have been subject to a rule of total legal separation, a situation established with full agreement on the part of the church. Nonetheless, the Chilean Government has always had particular consideration for the importance and contribution of the Catholic Church in the history of our country in forming its national identity, without detriment to the government's unlimited respect for all creeds. In the same spirit it is necessary to emphasize the government's recognition of and gratitude for the immense toil which foreign priests have realized throughout Chilean history and are still realising in this country and for all the hardships involved in that apostolic task.

In view of the above, it is obvious that the supreme government has absolutely no intention whatever of persecuting the church or its members and much less of interfering with matters that belong to the field of action of the church. In view of certain controversial situations of a political nature that have been occurring because of actions by certain members of the clergy, the supreme government has voluntarily communicated to the ecclesiastical authorities the measures it has had to take, or those it might find itself forced to take against some priest or member of a religious order.

These considerations refer to the nature of the values protected by the rules of public order and it should be understood that a proceeding such as the one mentioned in the preceeding paragraph can never affect the exclusive, definitive and inalienable competence of the executive branch to protest public order and that no kind of coparticipation in the exercise of that competence can be accepted.

In the case of the three foreign priests, whose residence visas have been cancelled, it is proper to point out that the activities which led to that decision were undeniably and repeatedly of a political nature endangering public order and the rules of the political recess in force. The appropriate ecclesiastical authorities were informed in good time about those activities and warned about the legal consequences that would ensue if they were repeated, which in fact occurred, and in a serious way.

It is enough to mention, as examples, that on more than one occasion some of them had to be detained during political demonstrations in public places or were caught distributing political pamphlets, or made ecclesiastical premises available for unauthorized political meetings, or abetted various acts also violating the political process. They even urged, during religious ceremonies, resistance to the orders of the authorities.

The supreme government once more expresses its firm will and readiness to make good sense and the cooling of ideological passions prevail in this and other fields where it is necessary to strengthen national unity and help consolidate internal peace, so deeply affected by the experience Chile has gone through and of which so many countries of the continent have now become victims.

The church wants peace, not hatred. The government wants the same and acts consequently. The church asks for brotherly love to create a sounder climate of coexistence in this country. The government should safeguard this and for this reason it has decided to cancel the residence permit in Chile of the three foreigners who, shielding themselves behind the cassock, have tried to disturb that very climate.

Australia Questions Expulsion

PY161808 Paris AFP in Spanish 0211 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Santiago, 15 Mar (AFP) -- The Chilean Foreign Ministry confirmed today that Australia is objecting to the imminent expulsion of an Australian Catholic priest together with two Irish missionaries.

The Vicariat of Solidarity of the Santiago Archbishopric also presented a formal petition to the Interior Ministry not to apply the announced punishment of the three priests who are accused of participating in political activities opposed to General Augusto Pinochet's government.

A report from Canberra indicated today that Australia has asked Chile to reconsider the expulsion of the missionary Brian McMahon, who on Monday was officially notified about the measure. The Irish missionaries Desmond McGillicudy and Brendan Forde were also notified.

The Australian Government has the legitimate right to call the Chilean ambassador to the Foreign Ministry to clarify the situation, Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer stated in Santiago.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS FUNDS FOR SECURITY DEVELOPMENT

PA162359 Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 9 Mar 83 p 9-A

[Text] The government yesterday enacted a decree by which 12,626,100,000 pesos are allocated for strengthening the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), the Justice and National Defense Ministries, the National Police, judicial branch and Attorney General's Office.

Decree No 663 of 7 March 1983 develops the rehabilitation programs to include a series of actions to benefit the zones affected by situations of public order and will contribute not only to the pacification of the zones but to their economic and social revival.

According to these provisions, the government has given the order to pour into these regions all the efforts to invest in the infrastructure while strengthening the Army and police so that they may have the necessary personnel to continue their struggle against subversion and kidnapping and develop security campaigns.

The Council of Ministers recently authorized the opening of these credits and the State Council previously issued a favorable opinion on the matter.

Additional Credits

The additional credits for the remainder of the 1983 fiscal year will be distributed as follows:

Justice Ministry: Higher Directorate [Direccion Superior], administration of the Penitentiary system, legal medicine and forensic investigations, national police stations. Total credits: 391,049,000 pesos.

National Defense Ministry: Higher Directorate, General Command, administration of Army, Navy and Air Force operations. Total credits: 4,491,645,000 pesos.

National Police: Police services, health and social welfare, (purchase of equipment, material and supplies). Total credits: 1,244,600,000 pesos.

Judicial branch: Disciplinary courts, court administration and superior, circuit, labor, minor, municipal and territorial courts, criminal courts. Total credits: 260,000,000 pesos.

Attorney General's Office: Higher Directorate, district attorney's courts (fiscalias de tribunales y juzgados). Total credits: 35,500,000 pesos.

Administrative Department of Security, Defense and security: information and processing of information, (complementary military equipment, weapons and ammunition, intelligence equipment, anti-explosives, laboratory, communications, systematization equipment). Total credits: 300,000,000 pesos.

Justice Ministry: Development and administration of justice. Direct investment. Construction, equipping and repair of jails. Total credits: 661,666,000 pesos.

National Defense Ministry: Defense and security (improvement in recruitment services, maintenance of war materiel, military housing programs, military communications, purchase of transporation equipment, development of an operational command, public-military action).

Colombian Air Force Defense and security. Vichada and Palanquero Air Force Bases, better maintenance of armament, equipment, ships, airplanes and installations. Purchase of Hughes 300 equipment.

The grand total in credits allotted to the National Defense Ministry includes funds allotted to the Army, Air Force and the National Abronavigation Service, Satena, and adds up to 3,054,000,000 pesos.

"Satena" airlines: equipment repair, purchase of six new single-engine airplanes. Total credits: 227,300,000 pesos.

National Police: Defense and security (construction and repair of headquarters and other installations). Total credits: 397,500,000 pesos.

Judicial branch: Development and administration of justice. Construction and repair of legal offices. Total credits: 1,790,219,000 pesos.

ORP THREATENS TO EXECUTE KIDNAPPED U.S. EXECUTIVE

PA170330 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Mar 83 p 2-A

[Communique sent by the People's Revolutionary Organization to EL BOGOTANO newspaper in Bogota on 8 March on the kidnapping of oil company executive Kenneth Bishop]

[Text] We inform the public and the Texas Petroleum Company that Mr Bishop Kenneth [as published], an executive of that company, is in our power. He will be executed on 29 March if the company fails to meet our demands before that date.

[Signed] People's Revolutionary Organization

FARC LEADER 'TIROFIJO' RECEIVES AMNESTY

PA161820 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1659 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Neiva, Colombia, 16 Mar (EFE) -- Legendary guerrilla Jose Manuel Marulanda, alias "Tirofijo," head of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), has been pardoned today by the Superior Tribunal of this city.

The court ruling benefits "Tirofijo" and 12 other FARC guerrillas.

Magistrate Reinaldo Polania, proponent of the judicial ruling, said that "Tirofijo" and the other guerrillas were granted total and unconditional amnesty for the FARC ambush of a military patrol in 1972 in Huila Department in which several soldiers were killed.

Meanwhile, seven FARC rebels appeared today before civilian authorities in Florencia, in southern Colombia, expressing their desire to accept the amnesty offer.

ACCUMULATED CRUDE SOLD; OUTLOOK GOOD FOR NEW WELL

PA121622 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] All of the accumulated crude has been sold and a new oil well has had positive results. A new oil well in the northeast, the (Guarumo I), has had positive results and in the past few days the country has managed to sell practically all its accumulated crude. According to our investigations, the crude has been sold at an average price of $28.

Raul Jaramillo, general manager of CEPE [Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation], and (Rodrigo Zeron), the director of hydrocarbons, said that the amount and quality of hydrocarbons at (Guarumo I) will only be known after the production tests have been completed. Jaramillo explicitly said that in the next few days we will be giving the country the news that we have completed the tests at (Guarumo I), and it will be good news.

For his part (Zeron) said that the production tests will be done today and tomorrow, and that the results will be known by early next week. We have high hopes regarding this well, he added.

The Texaco company ceded the (Guarumo) well to CEPE in 1973. The well has very good prospects, it was said. It is located south of the (Chuara) well, between the (Sacapi) and the (Sansahuari) wells in the northeast.

Regarding the marketing of crude, it was said that the country sold almost 3 million barrles of accumulated crude in the past few days. The last shipment of crude was made yesterday, but the CERE manager said that one shipload of crude is still at Esmeraldas. He said that the crude was sold at an average price of $28. Most of the crude was sold to the United States.

IMPACT OF OPEC PRICE CUT ON BUDGET VIEWED

PA162201 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Excerpts] To Ecuador, OPEC's humblest member, the OPEC agreement means a yearly loss of $350 million and a reduction in its production quota from 230,000 to 200,000 barrels a day.

Ecuador's total revenues last year were $2.13 billion, of which 55 percent, or $1.182 billion, was obtained from oil exports.

The nation's budget will be affected by $73 million, or 2,400 million sucres, by the reduction in crude prices from $30 to $28 a barrel, according to the latest surveys. The country's revenue authorities had previously asserted that each $1 reduction below the $30 level would represent an impact on the budget of over 900 million sucres.

However, revenue authorities were noticeably in disagreement yesterday. While some said that the budget financing will drop by 2 billion sucres as a result of the cut in crude prices, others said that the total reduction will total 2.4 billion sucres.

RESCK GRANTS INTERVIEW TO BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPER

PY151425 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Mar 83 p 8

[Text] "The recent democratic opening in Argentina, the broadening of the democratic process in Brazil and the return of the democratic regime in Bolivia will have an inexorable positive effect on Paraguay, where the people are struggling for their freedom," Luis A. Resck stated during an interview granted to the Brazilian newspaper O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO published on Sunday, 13 March.

"According to Resck, the Paraguayan regime of General Alfredo Stroessner -- in power for 29 years -- has consolidated itself on the national level through internal corruption, and on the international level through the autocratic regimes of the southern cone, the multinational companies and the support given by the Ronald Reagan administration to governments of the right," the Brazilian newspaper adds.

"But now internal corruption, which has reached an extremely critical point, is undermining the regime, and the new democratic winds blowing through the southern cone do not favor the continuation of dictatorship in Paraguay," O ESTADO states.

"Resck, who claims to be the itinerant accuser and spokesman for the voiceless in Paraguay, is visiting several countries and international organizations seeking support and solidarity for the national accord, whose objective is to open a democratic process in Paraguay, in the economic, political and social sectors," the Brazilian newspaper states. It adds that "Resck went into exile 2 years ago by order of the current Paraguayan regime."

NATIONAL DELEGATIONS TO BRAZILIAN INAUGURATIONS

PY151615 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 15 Mar 83 p 3

[Text] Delegations of national authorities left yesterday for several Brazilian cities to represent our country in the ceremonies marking the assumption of office of the new governors of the states of Parana, Santa Catarina, Matto Grosso do Sul and Sao Paulo. These governors will assume office today.

The delegation to Sao Paulo, where Franco Montoro will assume the office of governor, is headed by Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion and is made up of General Gaspar German Martinez and Presidential Private secretary Mario Abdo Benitez.

The delegation to Curitiba, where Jose Richa will assume office as governor, will be headed by Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro, and will be made up of General Guillermo F. Clebsch, Dr Miguel Angel Bestard and Dr Francisco Barreiro Maffiodo.

The delegation to the city of Florianopolis where Espiridion Amin will assume office as governor of the state of Santa Catarina will be made up of Health Minister Dr Adan Godoy Jimenez, General Luis E. Olmedo and Mr Anival Fernandez, presidential press and information under secretary.

Our delegation to Campo Grande to attend the assumption ceremony of the new governor of Matto Grosso do Sul will be made up of Pedro Hugo Pena and General Cesar Machuca Vargas.

ECONOMY MINISTER ON FOREIGN DEBT RENEGOTIATION

PY152343 Paris AFP in Spanish 2200 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Lima, 14 Mar (AFP) -- Upon his return from New York, London, and Tokyo, Peruvian Economy Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor said last night that "the international banking sector has reacted (?favorably) to our request for the renegotiation of our foreign debt in the short term and for issuing a $880 million-credit.

He said that in New York he [word indistinct] 120 banks, in London 70 banks and in Tokyo 30 banks, that Peru has credits with international organizations, that its exports total $3.5 billion per year and that it has a serious program [word indistinct] by the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] and the IMF.

He noted that basically he requested the banks to extend their terms for the payment of short-term debts -- which is estimated at $2 billion -- in order to avoid a decrease in Peru's international reserves. He also requested a $880 million loan to be paid in 8-years to cover the deficit in the balance of payments.

The economy minister said that the initial answer was very positive and that it reflects how much the international banking sector appreciates Peru's efforts. Moreover, Rodriguez said that [word indistinct] the negotiations will continue until mid-April at which time the banks will give a definite answer.

He also noted that the situation in the international banking sector is abnormal due to the impact of the foreign debts of Mexico, Brazil and Argentina, but he said that Peru's situation is different from that of these nations.

DEFENSE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ARMS DEAL

PY162120 Paris AFP in Spanish 1747 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Lima, 16 Mar (AFP) -- The Defense Committee of the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies is going to investigate an alleged contract for the purchase of Argentine rifles and the alleged presence of Soviet military advisors here in Peru, said Aureo Zegarra, interim president of the committee.

The possible purchase of 180,000 to 200,000 Argentine Fal rifles of Belgium patent has been criticized by a local leftist newspaper which calls them obsolete. The presence of Soviet advisors was announced by the U.S. Department of State last week.

Zegarra said that War Minister General Oscar Brush will be summoned to report on these two matters. He added that the Argentine rifles performed badly during the Malvinas conflict.

Regarding the Soviet advisors, Zegarra said that since Peru has weapons purchased from the USSR, it is not surprising to see technicians arrive to give instructions on the operation and maintenance of this equipment.

After pointing out that every country is free to chose what is best for its defense, he recalled that Argentina, by failing to diversify its suppliers, remained defenseless during the Malvinas crisis when Western Europe, the United States and other Western countries froze their sale of arms and spare parts.

GOVERNMENT NOT TO SIGN LAW OF SEA CONVENTION

PY161645 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text of Foreign Ministry Communique No 001 Released in Lima on 15 March]

[Text] Notwithstanding the important role that it carried out in drafting the new Law of the Sea, the Peruvian Government has decided not to sign the Law of the Sea convention for the time being. The government feels that this issue requires further exhaustive legal and economic studies, because of its complex and important nature. The pertinent organizations are already involved in these studies with the objective of safeguarding national interests.

JUDGE ISSUES WARRANT FOR ARREST OF GENERAL

PY160020 Lima EL DIARIO DE MARKA in Spanish 4 Mar 83 p 2

[By Luis Morales and Juvenal Quispe]

[Excerpt] Ayacucho, 3 Mar -- Today, Judge Marcial Cappelletti Cisneros, from Huamanga Province, issued a warrant for the arrest of General Clemente Roberto Noel Moral on charges of murdering three humble citizens from Ayacucho. This action is listed as court case no 44/83. According to judicial sources, the warrant also includes Luis Prado, Vargas Jurado, Basilio Araujo, Juan Araujo and Saturnino Araujo on charges of belonging to a paramilitary group that acted on orders from General Noel Moral, the political-military commander of the emergency zone.

Judge Cappelletti Cisneros adopted the decision after studying a report submitted by the provincial public prosecutor and finding sufficient evidence for issuing the warrant. The decision states that the group led by General Noel Moral is charged with murdering Asuncion Barzola Cerda, Alejandro Llallhui Ayala and Marino Andotiano Cisneros.

DEMOCRATIC CONVERGENCE PRESIDENT ON STRUGGLE

PA161943 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] You will now listen to Juan Raul Ferreira, president of the Uruguayan Democratic Convergence [CDU], who was interviewed in Managua by our special correspondent in the Nicaraguan capital. Ferreira first refers to the probable impact of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Cuba and Bolivia on the rest of the Latin American southern cone:

[Begin recording] First of all, and without doubt, I must point out that we had expected the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Bolivia and Cuba because this was always part of the platform of the People's Democratic Union [UDP], which is now ruling the sister people of Bolivia. In addition, the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with all countries in the world is also included in the platform of all of our country's democratic and people's organizations.

Second, we think that the fact that the signing of the reestablishment of relations took place here in Managua may enlighten all Third World countries about the changes which are taking place now in the southern cone. The Bolivian process, which has extended the democratic frontier to the south and is helping consolidate a democratic pole in the southern cone, which is now governed, or misgoverned, by opprobious military dictatorships, is a milestone or an expression of an overall movement now taking place in the region. It will become evident in Brazil, within its own characteristics, through the changes in government that will take place on 15 March when the opposition governors elected in most states will take office. It became and is becoming evident in Uruguay through the people's impressive show of repudiation of the fascist regime during the latest domestic elections. The dictatorship was defeated, through its own mechanisms, by a margin of 85 percent to 15 percent as well as through the impressive movement of popular mobilization. It is becoming evident in Argentina through the collapse of the entire structure of the military government and the resurgence, with more strength than before, of the democratic movement, which is offering clear and tangible democratic options. It was also been expressed in Chile through the latest mass protests at a grassroots level and by some initial indications that Pinochet's regime is collapsing. It is demonstrating certain common characteristics among all these countries within a democratization process which is taking place in the region at a time when, fortunately, the political forces in our countries have found vehicles, avenues and means of joint coordination and discussion as never before. [end recording].

Regarding the manner in which the CDU is projecting itself in Uruguay, Ferreira said:

[Begin recording] Well, I think that the CDU is now in a new stage in Uruguay; that is, its political and organic representation within the country has been strengthened by the emergence of political movements within the traditional Uruguayan parties and the Uruguayn leftwing, now grouped under the broad front. These movements are consolidating the trend toward convergence and are creating, with increased imagination and creativity, channels of expression, struggle and an activism which is converging in the country. Second, this is so because the result of the latest domestic elections, gave way to a broad convergence and broad national consensus against the dictatorship. This convergence was accompanied in the last few weeks by a process of mobilizations by the CDU which we view as the only guarantee of a real process of political change in our country.

The military regime has now announced the opening of a phase of political discussion and dialogue. We understand, and wish to strongly reiterate, that we must expect nothing from any dialogue in which the democratic and popular forces are not represented, a dialogue which does not have the support of this broad process of popular mobilization. The political dialogue will actually occur on the streets of Montevideo and in the interior; it will occur at the factories and worksites and in every place where, continuing with this climate and this campaign of popular mobilizations, we can live near the people and join them in pressing for the fulfillment of the nonnegotiable demands which the Uruguayan people made during the latest internal elections when they called for the restoration of democracy. [end recording]

NEW COLORADO PARTY EXECUTIVE BOARD FORMED

PY151812 Paris AFP in Spanish 0019 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Montevideo, 13 Mar (AFP) -- The factions led by Julio Sanguinetti and Enrique Tarigo, who oppose the current civilian-military government, have won 10 seats on the new Colorado Party Executive Board at the convention which this traditional Uruguayan political party held today.

Four seats were won by the faction led by former President Jorge Pacheco Areco, who is considered progovernment within the Colorado Party. The last seat was given to former parliamentarian Juan Justo Amaro, an independent.

The new Executive Board of the Colorado Party, together with the Blanco Party and the Catholic Civic Union, will hold talks with the Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission (Comaspo) to draw up a constitutional reform, which will be submitted to a plebiscite during the presidential election scheduled for November 1984. The new Exeuctive Board will take over officially on Monday 14 March.

No statements were released after the convention, which took place without any incidents whatsoever.

BRIEFS

BENEFITS OF OIL PRICE REDUCTION -- Montevideo, 22 Feb (AFP) -- The reduction of $5.50 per barrel in the price of oil imported from Nigeria represents a savings of $165,000 a day for Uruguay. Uruguay has a daily consumption of 30,000 barrels of oil and gets 50 percent from Nigeria and the rest from Venezuela and Mexico. The government is trying to reactivate contracts with Iran and has established a plan of exchange of Uruguayan products, mainly meat, for oil. The savings due to the new prices will not go into effect until Uruguay negotiates a new contract, because the price reduction is not affected by prior contracts. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 22 Feb 83 PY]

GOVERNMENT 'TEMPORARILY' SUSPENDS ENERGY CREDITS

PA170319 Paris AFP in Spanish 2054 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Caracas, 16 Mar (AFP) -- Venezuela will "temporarily" suspend the granting of new energy aid credits that it offered under the San Jose Agreement (signed August 1980) to nine Central American and Caribbean countries, reported Herman Luis Soriano, preisent of the Venezuelan Investment Funds (FIV).

The Venezuelan-Mexican San Jose Agreement provides for the subcontinent's two major oil producers to finance 30 percent of the oil purchases of these countries with loans at 4 percent interest.

The total deliveries of both countries should not exceed 160,000 barrels of oil per day.

The countries affected by the Venezuelan decision are Barbados, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

Venezuela's loans under the San Jose Agreement totaled $674 million for the first year of the agreement to all nine countries.

The FIV has recommended to the government to suspend any new aid for development projects in the region, according to Soriano.

This aid amounted to $90 million at the end of 1981.

Further Report

PA151852 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1818 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Caracas, 15 Mar (EFE) -- In a meeting chaired by Finance Minister Arturo Sosa, the Venezuelan Investments Fund (FIV) decided to suspend all international cooperation programs, it was learned today in this capital.

In a statement published by the local newspapers, FIV President Hermann Luis Soriano said that during the year loans and assistance totaled 10 billion Bolivares ($2.33 million) [as received].

The suspension of cooperation programs affects first of all the countries of Central America and the Caribbean. The countries most affected are Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

PRESIDENT HERRERA REAFFIRMS FAITH IN OPEC

PA130400 Vienna OPECNA in Spanish 0538 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] Caracas, 11 Mar (OPECNA) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins reiterated his full support for OPEC on Thursday and asked that continuous efforts be made to reinforce its unity and solidarity, for the benefit of the Third World.

The president was delivering his "State of the Nation" speech to a joint session of Congress held to commemorate the fourth anniversary of his inauguration.

He said that although OPEC's economic influence is declining, "we must continue to promote its strength, unity and solidarity as the only valuable and effective organization of the Third World and the international community."

President Herrera continued: "We are experiencing the negative consequences of the deterioration of the oil market, but we continue to have confidence in the initial concept that gave birth to OPEC." The president called for talks between OPEC and other producers, along with the consumers, "who represent the other side of the coin." The president told the Congress that Venezuela had "adhered strictly" to the OPEC price structure and had never sold oil on the spot market. Its sales are made on the basis of contracts.

Referring to the problems that affect Third World countries, he noted the "structural defects" that appeared in the international economy. The developing countries' burdensome debt now approaches $800 billion, 67 percent of which is owed to private banks at variable rates of interest, Herrera said. Some 40 percent of that debt has to be repaid within a year. President Herrera said that international organizations were unable to resolve the crisis. Overall negotiations within the United Nations failed to get off the ground and the Brandt Commission's recommendations were not implemented. "The one truth that has emerged from all of this is that no country, no matter how poor, can even attempt to solve on its own the new problems of orientation and equilibrium in the contemporary international economy, which is still awaiting the delayed new international economic order in which so much faith had been placed," the president said. The president urged developing countries to make a sustained effort to intensify their financial, commercial, monetary and technical-scientific relations, in order to reduce the dependence and vulnerability of their economies. Herrera said that the Latin American nations must make a joint effort to exploit their "enormous" purchasing power to obtain products and services from the industrialized "North" and he called for the creation of local and regional food reserves in order to ensure food security.

ENERGY MINISTER ON PRIVATE VISIT TO SPAIN

PA161722 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Despite a drop in production, Venezuela will have no problem fulfilling its oil contract with Spain. So said Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuelan mines and energy minister, upon his arrival in Madrid. Calderon Berti arrived in the Spanish capital on a private visit after attending the OPEC meeting in London.

The mines and energy minister was approached by reporters who questioned him on the effect that OPEC's decision will have on Venezuela. Among other things, Calderon Berti said that the Venezuelan Government had taken the necessary measures to fill the established quotas. He said that the fact that OPEC reached a decision at a time of great difficulty for the international oil market is positive and all-important.

SEPULVEDA ENDS VISIT TO SPAIN, DEPARTS

FL152103 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1923 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Madrid, 15 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda asserted here today that the political contribution of the Spanish Government headed by Felipe Gonzalez will be exceptionally useful to achieve peace in Central America.

Upon concluding his official visit to Spain, the Mexican diplomat stated that his country would like to see the Central American nations and Latin America in general participating in the effort to develop the pacification of the region.

Moments before departing for New York, Sepulveda said Felipe Gonzalez is an exceptional expert of the Central American situation.

He announced that on behalf of Mexico's President Miguel de la Madrid, he had invited the chief of the Spanish Government to visit his country.

Sepulveda was received yesterday by Felipe Gonzalez and, during the talks, they expressed agreement in diverse matters dealing with Central America and international policy.

The Mexican foreign secretary ended in Madrid a tour which began on 2 March in Japan, Mexico's second trade partner. On 4 March, prior to departing Tokyo for New Delhi, Sepulveda denied that a country could easily be contaminated by foreign ideas. At the time, a Japanese journalist asked him about a statement made by U.S. Senator Henry Jackson in the sense that Mexico is vulnerable to the region's revolutionary forces and, because of this, U.S. security could be in jeopardy. That remark reveals a supreme ignorance of Mexican problems, Sepulveda stressed.

The so-called domino theory of the socialist revolution, particularly when applied to Central America, can only reflect a very primitive and elementary view of world affairs. At the time he reiterated that Mexico advocates the peaceful solution of Central American conflicts in political negotiations and that foreign military advisers be withdrawn from the region, he stated.

On the night of that same day, 4 March, the foreign secretary traveled to New Delhi to participate as observer in the Seventh Nonaligned Movement Summit Conference, during which he rejected the idea of using another country as a pretext for exerting illegitimate pressures on Latin America. The observers considered this statement to be a response to what President Reagan had said the day before at a religious assembly.

(The U.S. head of state had said, among other things, that the U.S. border extends to El Salvador and reiterated that Mexico, along with Panama, could be contaminated by Central American revolutions and that his government would not allow the victory of the insurgents in El Salvador, in addition to voicing serious threats against Nicaragua).

Sepulveda said that for nations such as Mexico, stability and democracy are Mexico's own political patrimony and preserving them is the sole responsibility of its government and people, without interference or guidance. The independence of the nations in the region is the sovereign right of each people and no one else. At the nonaligned summit, the Mexican foreign secretary termed the peoples' rebellious revolts in Central America a product of social injustice.

Bernardo Sepulveda departed Madrid for Mexico.

MUNICIPALITY OFFICES TAKEN OVER IN CHIAPAS

PA161752 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p 4

[Text] the municipality offices in Socoltenango, Chiapas, were taken over 2 days ago by more than 100 citizens demanding the dismissal of Mayor Octavio Velazco, whom they charge disrespects the people's will and prevents the participation of councilmen and magistrates who oppose the government. The accusation was made by Magistrate Pedro Amilcar Avendano, a member of the National Action Party, PAN, who said the people of Socoltenango directly accuse Governor Absalon Castellanos of keeping Velazco in his post against the people's will. He said that the municipal officials were changed barely 2 months ago. Since then, Amilcar explained, the municipal leader has refused to work with three councilmen of the opposition, or with Amilcar himself. Finally, he said that the situation is tense, and the citizens will hold the officials responsible for any act of violence.

NEWSPAPER CHARGES U.S. RELIGIOUS MANIPULATION

PA151247 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Mar 83 pp 7-A, 8-A

[Jorge Cruickshank Garcia article: "Foreign Siege: Manipulated Churches"]

[Text] Mexico has recently been strongly besieged by imperialism's political and social forces and by tools used to facilitate its intervention and domination.

Recently, democratic political parties, labor organizations and Mexicans who are concerned about the serious problems that these actions pose to our country have denounced the intense activity of several U.S.-sponsored religious sects.

Curiously, it has been noted that such sects work most intensely in the states with the largest oil deposits, such as Tabasco, Chiapas and Campeche, in addition to other areas where the native population is large, such as Oaxaca, Guerrero, Michoacan, Nayarit and the state of Mexico. These groups devote their attention to the native population, particularly to the backward sectors.

The penetration of our country by these religious groups is nothing new. It has been going on for years and complements a similar activity undertaken by the Catholics. Now, however, it has increased alarmingly, involving considerable economic resources that come from the United States, as we all know.

There are many churches, but their social and political purposes are the same: To manipulate the souls of our people and to render them easy prey for the imperialist schemes. The Jehova Witnesses, the Anglicans, the Evangelists, the Baptists, the Adventists, the Lutherans, the Presbyterians, the Methodists and others all receive guidance and financial resources from similar organizations in the United States. These churches and their so-called "peace corps," as well as the well-known "Summer Institute of Linguistics," taken advantage of the poverty, the neglected state and the ignorance of a large sector of our people and, through supposedly charitable activities, dominate their souls and render them accomplices in actions that run contrary to our historical goals.

These organizations have been expelled from several Latin American countries and from other continents after that which we already realize was denounced and confirmed: that their work is closely related to the Yankee government's espionage and destabilization organizations, such as the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Our country has been too tolerant. A recent report revealed that the Public Education Secretariat severed all relations with the Summer Institute of Linguistics, but the fact is that this organization continues to operate openly and with impunity and, in many cases, with the acquiesence of local authorities.

Our progressive and democratic forces are wondering if our government will continue its senseless tolerance of these religious groups' subversive attitude, in contradiction to the nation's interests, and of the open intervention on their behalf exercised by U.S. religious, economic and political groups.

A few days ago we received a pamphlet that confirmed the existence of open U.S. intervention in support of their activities. The "Emmanuel Baptist Association," led by Jorge Angel Rodriguez, sent a circular to all association pastors to tell them that "in view of the new 3-year agreement between the Texas General Baptist Convention and the National Convention by which all possible assistance will be lent between 1 January 1983 and 31 December 1985, we should take advantage of the opportunity and plan on a large scale...." Continuing: "we are on the threshold of one of the greatly significant stages in the expansion (sic) of the kingdom of God in our country; therefore, I am asking for your valuable opinion in the enclosed poll, so that we may prepare the proper strategic planning for the next 3 years."

The document that includes the poll asks the following question, among others: "Are you willing to joyfully and decisively participate in a 3-year work plan for the entire area of our Emmanuel Baptist Association?" It also contains questions on the possibility of engaging in risky tasks, such as creating new churches, new missions and preaching centers and undertaking thousands of baptisms. It asks whether it is possible to cover all of the cities and towns of the states of Colima, Jalisco and Nayarit. It also requests information as to the kinds of people who should participate in the Texas Convention, including ministers who teach music, missionaries, evangelists, ministers with knowledge of mass communications, Christian education ministers, architectural specialists and youth and childhood specialists. It also inquires if they may request resources for missionary work, such as Christian films, tents and chairs, musical instruments, projects, teaching equipment, transportation equipment, evangelical literature. The document gives assurances that to carry out the activities they can provide choral groups, student groups, musical groups and medical and nursing groups; that they can implement youth gatherings, news conferences, children's gatherings, stadium rallies, public marches or parades, concerts, writers' shops, shops on carrying out periodic visits, evangelical campaigns; and that they can share time for periodic visits, evangelist campaigns, the mobilization of working groups and so forth.

The document we are denouncing reveals the open political and economic relationship between the U.S. religious sects and those operating in our country. It is already known that the preachers amd missionaries receive their pay directly from the United States and that here, without limitations, the U.S. missionaries of all churches operate freely, engaged in their political rather than religious activities.

We believe that these facts and their serious consequences cannot be ignored. The authorities must respond to the demands of the national democratic forces and drastically stop the denationalizing actions of these groups determined to dominate our country to serve the objectives of U.S. imperialism.

ILLUECA RETURNS FROM NEW DELHI NONALIGNED SUMMIT

PA161637 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 16 Mar 83 p 12A

[Text] Panamanian Vice President Jorge E. Illueca returned to the country last night after heading the Panamanian delegation to the nonaligned summit in New Delhi. Vice President Illueca was welcomed at Omar Torrijos International Airport by the Indian ambassador to Panama, H.E. Shanti Sarup Bhanagar and his wife, as well as by relatives and protocol officials from the Panamanian Foreign Ministry.

The Panamanian delegation was one of the smallest but played an outstanding role during the meetings at the nonaligned summit. Vice President Illueca chaired one of the session's meetings. Panama was re-elected to its important position on the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau.

Finally, Vice President Illueca was unanimously chosen to give the speech thanking the Indian Government and people on behalf of all the Latin American delegations.

DOMINICAN LEFTISTS PRAISE 'STRUGGLE' FOR CANAL

PA150337 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 13 Mar 83 pp 1A, 8A

[By Servio Correa Loaiza]

[Text] "Panama's position has not changed since it was established by Omar. We are still a Third World and nonaligned country that rejects all forms of imperialism while struggling for full sovereignty and defending its right to be free." This statement was made by Rigoberto Paredes, secretary general of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], when he addressed 14 prominent politicians from the Dominican Republic who paid a courtesy visit to Panama yesterday.

Speaking of Panama's position on nonintervention in other countries' domestic affairs, Paredes referred to General Paredes' letter to U.S. Ambassador Briggs as an expression of this position.

Alvaro Menendez Franco, another PRD member who was invited to speak to the group, said: "We believe that we will have enough votes in the elections to defeat the opposition without having to steal a single vote from them, which is why they are trying to create a situation that would block the elections."

Roberto Santana, secretary general of the Anti-Imperialist Patriotic Union [UPA] of the Dominican Republic, spoke on behalf of the delegation. He said that the Patriotic Union Group includes two political blocs, both representing the revolutionary left. He noted that the delegation's visit was prompted by the group's concern about Central American issues and by its desire for knowledge of what is taking place, so that it may express its solidarity as a revolutionary organization with popular struggles for self-determination.

Santana said: "We would like to state our recognition of the struggle being waged by the Panamanian people for true and total sovereignty over the canal." He expressed his support for a continuation of this struggle, in line with the process initiated by General Torrijos.

The visiting group included representatives from 10 parties of the "Dominican left," according to group spokesmen. These parties are currently working toward political unity.

The Dominican Republic politicians later talked with PRD leaders led by Diomedes Concepcion during a lunch hosted by the PRD in a local restaurant.

The UPA delegation was composed of the following people: Narciso Isa Conde, Carlos Dore and Arsenio Hernandez of the Dominican Communist Party; Rafael Taveras and Juan B. Mejia, secretary general and vice president, respectively, of the Socialist Bloc; Jose E. Oviedo, member of the Politburo of the Dominican Workers Party; Lucas Vicens of the Revolutionary Communist League; Claudio Tovares, secretary general of the Workers Revolutionary Party; Enrique de Leon, secretary general of the Socialist Workers Organization; Miguel Mejia of the Leftist Unity; Roberto Santana of the UPA; Leonardo Mercedes Fidelio de Prades, Roberto Duverge and Francisco Santos, of the Workers Socialist Movement; Roman Valerio of the Socialist Party; and Jose Bugosa, a journalist.

Havana Report

PA141925 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] A delegation of Dominican Republic leftist leaders has met in Panama with representatives of the governing Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD]. During the meeting, PRD Secretary General Rigoberto Paredes said that Panama is a nonaligned Third World country struggling for full sovereignty that defends the right to be free.

Roberto Santana, secretary general of the Anti-Imperialist Patriotic Union of the Dominican Republic, expressed the visiting delegates' solidarity with the struggle of the Panamanian people for their legitimate and complete sovereignty over the canal.

BRIEFS

NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION LEADER -- Indalecio Rodriguez A., leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), is currently visiting Panama. Rodriguez has described the FDN as a nationalist movement composed of Nicaraguan citizens of diverse social origin and ideology who are struggling for the establishment of a democratic and pluralistic government in Nicaragua. [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 5 Mar 83 pp B-1, B-16 PA]

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS -- Jose Sebastian Laboa, Nguyen Minh Phuong, Constantino Vassis, Frances Miles Filleul and Charles A.T. Skeet have presented credentials as the new ambassadors from the Holy See, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Greece, Canada and Barbados. [Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Mar 83 p 6A PA]

NEW NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED -- The newspaper EL PANAMENO was published today for the first time by the Popular Nationalist Party. [Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Mar 83 PA]

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT DESIGNATES HIGH COMMISSIONER TO UK

FL162008 Bridgetown CANA in English 1953 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Belize City, Belize, March 16, CANA -- Secretary to the Belize cabinet, Mr Rudolph Castillo, will be accredited as this country's first high commissioner to the United Kingdom in April, it was announced today.

Mr Castillo joined the public service in 1952 as a broadcaster. He was appointed chief information officer in 1963, and in 1974 was appointed a permanent secretary. From 1980 until his retirement from that post he served as secretary to the cabinet and since independence two years ago, he has also served as chief of protocol.

COSTA RICA

MEXICO OFFERS CONTINUED COOPERATION, SUPPORT

PA162018 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] In a letter delivered to Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez by the new Mexican ambassador, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid offered to continue supporting and cooperating with Costa Rica.

I am sure that the historical and cultural ties that unite our peoples are an appropriate framework for expanding the communication between our governments, which is nourished in the shared ideals of democracy and harmonious international coexistence, President de la Madrid adds in his note to Monge Alvarez. The message was delivered to President Monge by new ambassador (Maria Luisa Lealdo), who presented her credentials yesterday afternoon.

Within the framework of complex international (?coexistence), particularly within our geographical areas, it is evidently necessary to increase regional cooperation and dialogue, President de la Madrid added in his message to President Monge. De la Madrid also says that during her term in Costa Rica, Ambassador (Lealdo) will be particularly interested in identifying those areas in which cooperation between the two governments can be expanded.

For his part, President Monge Alvarez said that the relations between Costa Rica and Mexico have never changed, and what has existed is a war on paper, thus making relations seem a bit cold.

MINISTER SAYS PASTORA'S WORDS COMPROMISE COUNTRY

PA162017 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano has commented that all residents of our country must respect the laws and the rules for social and international coexistence that the country itself has determined.

The minister said this when asked about Commander Eden Pastora's remarks in our country last week. Solano added that here in Costa Rica, every political refugee or politically persecuted person is entitled to express his opinions and his differences with the government he has fled. One must be careful, however, lest these remarks endanger peace and our government's neutrality policy. I honestly believe that Pastora reached the very limit of what is permissible, Minister Solano added.

Since Pastora has reached the limit of what is permissible in relation to our neutrality policy, he should explain the remarks he made to local journalists last week. The meaning of his words at that news conference must be made perfectly clear, since he said that after 15 April he will go from words to action, to armed action, against his country's government. It is evident that with this statement he is compromising Costa Rica's neutral policy. If he meant something else, it would be advisable for him to explain it, the minister said finally.

NICARAGUAN REFUGEES REQUEST ASYLUM, AID

PA161900 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Nicaraguans are fleeing their country en masse and requesting political and territorial asylum here because women and young people are being forced to join the militias.

Over 30 people, including women, children, men and elderly people requesting refuge and protection arrived today in (Barra del Colorado) aboard a costal freighter. A few days ago, another group of almost 20 people -- 4 women, 11 children, 2 elderly people and 2 adolescents -- arrived in (Barra del Colorado) after fleeing Nicaragua. The group is currently staying on an abandoned farm.

All those who arrived in (Barra del Colorado) this morning have declared that they left Nicaragua because the situation is unbearable. There is persecution and repression and attempts were being made to force them to collaborate with the Sandinist army by communist means. Many of them, including the women have reportedly been imprisoned and mistreated because whoever does not collaborate with the army is accused of being a counterrevolutionary and an enemy of the regime.

The new arrivals are calling for aid, political asylum and refuge until freedom returns to their country. Most of them are residents of the communities of (Cano Negro), (Boca de la Pimienta), San Juan del Norte, Rio de [word indistinct], (?Siuna) and other towns near Bluefields.

GOVERNMENT OUTLAWS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION

PA131318 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] San Jose, 12 Mar (AFP) -- The Costa Rican Association for the Conversation of Nature [Ascona], has been outlawed by the government, on the grounds that the group's objection to the construction of an interoceanic oil pipeline in the country is due to its being "infiltrated by communists."

The ban on the country's most important ecological association was ordered by Justice Minister Carlos Gutierrez, based on charges by a former Ascona member that "the boycott" against the oil pipeline was instigated by "communist infiltrators."

Ascona President Carlos Murillo has said, however, that the only infiltration of the organization has been "governmental," and he commented that those who rejected the oil pipeline do so for ecological, not political reasons.

Murillo, who will discuss the case next week with Justice Minister Gutierrez, said that the prohibition of Ascona is an attack on all the country's democratic institutions and sets "a dangerous precedent," because in the future any association that opposes government policy could suffer the same fate.

EL SALVADOR

POWER OUTAGES CONTINUE IN SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS

PA170404 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 16 Mar 83 p 3

[Excerpt] For the third consecutive day, a large part of El Salvador is without electrical power as a result of guerrilla actions. It was also reported that the terrorists destroyed a military base on the slopes of a volcano and killed four soldiers. Technicians repaired the power lines and restored electrical service in Chalatenango, Morazan and San Miguel Departments, but it is estimated that at least 1 million people in La Paz, San Vicente, Usulutan and La Union are without power.

COURT TO RETRY U.S. NUNS' ALLEGED MURDERERS

PA162134 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Mar 83

[By Alberto Barrera]

[Excerpt] Additional information has been released concerning the trial in San Vicente Department of five former National Guard members who are charged with the murder of four U.S. nuns on 4 December 1980 in La Paz Department. Local news media today learned that the 3d Section Court has called for a retrial and has remanded the case to the 1st Criminal Court for correction of the proceedings.

We learned this information from San Vicente, from Dr (Luis Alonso Melara), first magistrate of the 3d Section Court in downtown San Vicente, who explained that the trial has been remanded to the 1st Criminal Dourt in Zacatecoluca, where the trial took place, for correction of the proceedings.

FORMER HEAD OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE KILLED

PA160230 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2336 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] A communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, reports that 21 guerrillas died in La Bermuda, 6 km east of Suchitoto. Marianella Garcia (Diaz) president of the self-styled human rights committee, was one of the terrorists who died in the La Bermuda area, Suchitoto jurisdiction, Cuscatlan Department.

The FMLN and FDR terrorist hordes who have harrassed the residents of Suchitoto, Tenancingo, San Jose Guayabal, Guazapa and Aguilares have once again demonstrated their lack of experience and inefficiency as well as the uselessness and irrationality of the struggle that they say is for the benefit of the people. In a sabotage attempt, these terrorists -- manipulated from Nicaragua, Cuba and Moscow -- tried to destroy one of the many high-voltage towers carrying electricity to the harrassed areas. The quick and determined action by the soldiers, guarantors of public order and private and state property, resulted in a reported 21 guerrillas dead after heavy fighting.

According to Coprefa, investigation has proven as of today that one of the dead is a woman, Marianela Garcia (Diaz), president of the Human Rights Committee. In parenthesis, the communique adds, "the subversive." It also states that Marianela Garcia (Diaz) was active in the United Popular Action Front, FAPU, an open resistance front at the University of El Salvador. For a long time she was president of the self-styled human rights committee. While president of this organization, she travelled abroad to carry out misinformation plan elaborated in Nicaragua and directed by Russians and Cubans, the communique adds.

At the time of her death, the committee leader was mobilizing in the Suchitoto area under the name of Commander (Lucia). She sowed panic among the peasant community to prevent them from doing their farming and thus undermine their economy and the economy of the Salvadoran people. This is part of their economic warfare. In conclusion, the communique states that Commander (Lucia's) terrorist actions show that those who act as FDR political leaders or members of the self-styled human rights committee are agitators at the service of Marxism-Leninism who are making war on our people. The FDR and the Committee Commander (Lucia) led are cover organizations for the Marxist bands directed from Moscow, Cuba and Nicaragua.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Action in San Vicente

PA161522 (Clandestine) Radio Veneceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] We have recovered 48 rifles and captured 41 prisoners of war in San Vicente Department. In our previous transmission, Radio Venceremos issued preliminary reports on a new military victory in San Vicente Department. Here is the official report on the operation named "Yankee Aggressor, Out of El Salvador."

At 0600 on 14 March, the enemy garrison of the 5th Infantry Brigade located in San Rafael-San Diego canton on the road from Zacatecoluca to San Vicente, 200 meters from the Jiboa sugarmill, was taken by our forces. Our guerrilla units began their advance and attack on the enemy position at 2400 on 13 March. After intense fighting, the army troops surrendered to our revolutionary forces. We achieved the following results: 4 soldiers killed and 41 soldiers captured, including Cadet Lieutenant (Lopez Galvez), chief of the garrison. In this action, our revolutionary forces recovered for our people the following war materiel: 1 military communications radio; M-60 machinegun; 2 M-79 grenade launchers; 1 90-mm cannon; 48 M-16 rifles, 1 pair of binoculars and a large amount of ammunition and other materiel.

The operation "Yankee Aggressor Out of El Salvador" was directed by Commander (Douglas), second in command of our front. With this operation our forces reply to the maneuvers of Yankee imperialism and criminal Ronald Reagan. As long as more weapons are sent to the fascist army, our people will recover more weapons and ammunition for their just cause.

We take advantage of this opportunity to tell the relatives of the captured soldiers that they will soon be released. Death to Yankee imperialism! Long live our self-determination, independence and sovereignty! United to fight until the final victory; revolution or death, we will win! This report is signed by Commander (Milton) from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front.

'New Electoral Farces' Rejected

PA161540 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] We do not accept nor do we believe in new electoral farces, because our people no longer believe in them. We do not accept or believe in electoral farces that seek to conceal the genocide. We do not accept electoral masquerades that are coldly planned and whose results and date are already set in Washington and by the State Department.

We do not want or accept any solution to this war other than the total achievement of the four historic demands of the Salvadoran people: a new economic and social order for our country, a true agrarian reform, a government of broad participation and the rescue of our sovereignty. That is why we are armed and that is why we fight. We reject any electoral masquerade. We have decided to advance until the final victory.

Amnesty, Peace Commission Derided

PA161715 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] One of the clumsy and contemptible elements of the imperialist plan to try to overcome the dictatorship's critical political-military situation is a so-called Peace Commission. The makeup of that bureaucratic body, which is at the service of the most sinister interests, morally disqualifies it from the beginning.

The brand-new Peace Commission includes one of the most loyal pawns of the oligarchy, Francisco Quinonez Avila, an industrialist who was the founder and is the current secretary general of the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS. The PPS is the political arm of a sector of the recalcitrant rightwing. Francisco Quinonez Avila has been an active accomplice of the antipopular schemes supported by successive military dictatorships. He was deputy for two terms in the legislative assembly during the dark days of the dictatorship of General Molina. Francisco Quinonez Avila is accused of financing the death squads.

Another member of the so-called Peace Commission is Marco Rene Revelo, bishop of Santa Ana and member of the conservative church. He is well known for his open disagreement with the pastoral work of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero and he maintains that position even after the assassination of Monsignor Romero. Marco Rene Revelo was among those who ordered that posters of Monsignor Romero be taken down during John Paul II's visit.

Another member of the dictatorship's Peace Commission is Jose Guillermo Trabanino, a 70-year-old doctor and chemist who is a loyal collaborator of military dictatorships. He was foreign minister from 1956 to 1960 during the administration of tyrant Jose Maria Lemus. Trabanino was the first secretary of the infamous Organization of Central American States, ODECA.

In view of the moral character of the dictatorship's Peace Commission, we can deduce what kind of peace the dictatorship is seeking. It is part of an imperialist plan that, along with the new electoral farce, the so-called Human Rights Commission and the so-called amnesty, is the most awkward attempt to stop the collapse of the Salvadoran regime, give the oppressors time to recover from their critical situation, and give the Reagan administration justification for increased military intervention in El Salvador.

Since the so-called Peace Commission is composed of individuals of such moral character, we can only view this situation as a declaration of the war's extension, thus reaffirming that the dictatorship seeks the peace of the cemeteries. The so-called Peace Commission will present an amnesty plan that will call on us to lay down our weapons precisely at a time when it is the dictatorship's troops that are laying down their weapons in the face of our advances, at a time when the dictatorship's soldiers are surrendering to our forces, when the FMLN is winning the war. But the imperialist maneuver of the electoral farce, the amnesty and the so-called peace and human rights commissions is clear. It is a clumsy maneuver fabricated in Washington and it is destined to fail in El Salvador.

HAVANA: FMLN CONTINUES HARASSMENT OF ARMY

PA141523 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] In the past few hours, FMLN forces have carried out many sabotage against economic targets and harassment of the regime's troops. The guerrillas destroyed four trucks in Santa Ana and its environs. They also set fire to a passengers train near Apopa, some 180 km from San Salvador.

Meanwhile, Radio Farabundo Marti reported that harassment operations against military objectives and sabotages acts were carried out in the departments of Chalatenango, Cuscatlan and Usulutan. These operations are part of the new guerrilla offensive called Heroes of 2 March.

HAVANA REPORTS LARGE ANTIGUERRILLA OPERATION

PA151735 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Salvadoran military sources have announced that they will launch a large-scale antiguerrilla operation between the Departments of Cuscatlan and Cabanas, with the participation of 1,000 soldiers.

According to another report, two Swedish journalists, who for several weeks were in the guerrilla camps of the Guazapa volcano area, have been turned over to the Swedish Consulate in San Salvador. Before being turned over to the diplomatic mission, the two journalists were subjected to intense interrogation at the Salvadoran General Staff headquarters.

GUATEMALA

RIFT WITH U.S. OVER AID EMPLOYEE DEATHS DENIED

PA161537 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2320 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 15 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The death of a Guatemalan anthropologist who was shot by the army "has not caused problems between Guatemala and the United States," declared the spokesman for Gen Efrain Rios Montt's government.

Government spokesman Gonzalo Asturias said that U.S. Ambassador Frederick Chapin's Sudden departure for Washington is related to next week's congressional debate on economic aid to Guatemala. "Chapin will be back before 23 March so he can be present for the announced political opening," Asturias said.

Reports from the United States noted that the murder of Patricio Ortiz, an anthropologist who worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), and three of his companions has become a point of conflict in relations between the United States and Guatemala.

Spokesman Asturias noted that the Rios Montt government has made an official report on the matter and that the officer who directed the patrol to fire on the four people has been turned over to the military courts, which are making the "appropriate investigation. The proceedings are in their investigatory phase, and until the facts are clarified there will be no official statement", the government spokesman said.

RIOS MONTT VIEWS ON JUSTICE, FOREIGN POLICY

PA161545 Paris AFP in Spanish 1348 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Madrid, 16 Mar (AFP) -- Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt described the recent execution of six persons in his country "out of a desire to do justice and not as a weakness which would permit them to do what they please."

In an interview published here today by the Madrid daily EL PAIS, General Rios Montt declared that he reached power "without votes and without boots" and that "the strength of his government rests on the justice that it metes out." He added that God inspires him. He noted that Pope John Paul II came to Guatemala to "show that one must fulfill the established rules" and said that "the bible establishes the rules."

Regarding the democratization timetable, he indicated that "we will have an opportunity to see whether our plans are effective to the extent that the real conditions for a return to constitutionality are given."

He stressed that in Guetemala, "violence, subversion, politicking thrive on hunger, ignorance and poverty." General Rios Montt's objective consists "in searching for Guatemala," "because," he said, "they seek to impose on us from abroad and we want to be Guatemala."

Finally, in regard to Spain, he affirmed that "the time of the crown, the time of the colony has passed."

Regarding the possibility of reestablishing diplomatic relations with Spain, he noted that "they want us to recognize some things that...we really cannot." The Guatemalan president alluded to the explanation requested by the Spanish Government as a result of the police attack on the Spanish Embassy in January 1980. More than 30 persons were killed and relations between the two countries were severed.

PRESIDENT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR STORM

PA161846 Buenos Aires Latin in Spanish 1627 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 16 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt today declared a state of emergency throughout the national territory to deal with the destruction caused by the hurricane-strength winds that are sweeping across Guatemala.

President Rios Montt declared a government holiday and suspended classes so that public workers and students could help their families to recover from the storm, the Presidential Office announced.

FUR PLANS PILGRIMAGE TO HONOR MURDERED LEADER

PA161939 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] The FUR [United Revolutionary Front] will commemorate the anniversary of the death of Maneul Colom Argueta with a pilgrimage to the General Cemetery on 22 March. According to the information supplied by Miguel Andrino Dieguez, secretary general of the FUR, the pilgrimage will be attended by all the members of the political group. They will pay homage to Maneul Colom Argueta, and wreaths will be laid on his tomb at the General Cemetery. A mass will be held at 1830 on the same day at the Santa Clara church. It will be attended not only by the relatives of the murdered leader, but also by his friends and companeros from the FUR.

PARTY WITHDRAWS FROM MULTIPARTY ORGANIZATION

PA162003 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Guatemalan Christian Democracy [DCG] announced today in a press communique that it is withdrawing from the Multiparty Organization because it believes that the organization's objectives have been achieved. It added that the principles on which the democratic constitutionalist agreement was based will remain valid in maintaining a dialogue to find democracy.

It will be recalled that the so-called Multiparty Organization, composed of the MLN [National Liberation Movement], the PNR [Reformist National Party] and the DCG, was established following the last general election in order to protest the fraud that had been perpetrated to favor Gen Anibal Guevara.

In the communique made public today, the DCG said that in view of the proximity of 23 March, the date on which the government has promised to enact electoral laws favoring a political opening, the Christian Democrats expressed approval and their decision to continue in a position of critical opposition. They added that they will recognize good governmental actions and decisions which benefit the people.

In relation to other political organizations or ideological tendencies, they will maintain an attitude of permanent dialogue on the nation's problems, but will make no agreement that will compromise their political program or electoral future.

In announcing their withdrawal from the Multiparty Organization, the Christian Democrats said that one of their immediate goals is the return to a state of law, which is a basic necessity for the development of the political opening. They believe that the elimination of the special courts and strengthening the autonomy of the Supreme Court of Justice are steps of special importance to return to a state of law. They consider this fundamental for the political and social organizations and the people to recover their confidence in the state of law.'

HONDURAS

DEPUTIES REACT TO PROPOSAL TO TRAIN SALVADORANS

PA161552 Tegucigalpa Television Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Luz Diaz report]

[Text] Deputies of the National Congress today voiced their reaction to international news dispatches announcing that Honduras might be a training center for the Salvadoran Army. The Pentagon feels that there is relative calm in Honduras; therefore, the U.S. instructors would face less risks than they would in El Salvador.

The Honduran deputies indicated that this would be an unprecendented violation of the Constitution and, in any case, if the matter were to be brought before the National Congress, they would reject any such request from the U.S. Government.

Here is Deputy Efrain Diaz on the subject: [Begin recording] [Diaz] Well, I said at the beginning, Honduras has sponsored a peace initiative and I think that actions of that type are provocation to other countries, as was the Big Pine operation. Similarly, there is talk about the installation of a radar system here in Honduras for purposes that only compromise Honduras' peaceful intentions.

In any case, it seems to me that there is a very clear constitutional provision requiring the authorization of the National Congress for Honduras to agree to the training of Salvadoran troops.

[Question] Sir, what would you do if the proposal mentioned in the international dispatches were to be presented to the National Congress?

[Answer] I would be completely opposed to it. [end recording]

Rafael Peneda Ponce said that the best way to contribute to peace is to demonstrate absolute neutrality in the internal affairs of the countries in the area. [Begin recording] [Pineda] We believe that the best way to contribute to peace in Central America is to practice the most absolute neutrality in the affairs of other states. Therefore, the Salvadoran problem must be solved by Salvadorans without the interference from other states, in this case, without Honduran interference.

[Question] Would you consider this an act of provocation of a neighboring country by Honduras?

[Answer] Even if it were not an act of provocation, it could be interpreted as such, because if this were to take place, individuals would be receiving training to contribute to the solution of a problem that is primarily an internal issue. [end recording]

For his part, Deputy Carlos Montoya said that it is feasible that troops might be trained in Honduras, considering that there have always been military exchanges with the United States. [Begin recording] [Montoya] I have been gathering information about the Pentagon proposal made after economic aid to the Salvadoran Government was increased. Institutionally, this is feasible. In fact, there has always been an exchange of techniques and experiences and training has been provided in the Central American academies and armies. A supranational organization, such as Condeca [Central American Defense Council] even existed.

However, my position is as follows: Legally, Honduras, the Honduran Army, can reach an agreement for the training of Salvadoran military. On a strictly political level, however, it would be preferable for Honduras not to lend itself to such training, since the belligerent groups struggling in El Salvador might interpret this as direct participation in the conflict. The Honduran people's policy has been characterized by absolute respect for the self-determination of the peoples and for nonintervention. It would be preferable if the Salvadoran troops which reqire training receive it in some other country that does not have a common border with El Salvador, thereby permitting the struggle against subversion to be waged strictly by Salvadorans, without the direct participation of the neighboring countries.

[Question] Do you know what you would do, what your reaction would be, should this situation be submitted to the National Congress for discussion?

[Answer] I don't think it is necessary to discuss this in Congress because the institutions are free to sign exchange agreements with their various counterparts. For instance, the Honduran Army can do this, and in fact exchanges already exist with Panama, Guatemala, the United States, Mexico and Europe. We do believe, however, that the size of this exchange might necessitate a different agreement, a treaty, in which the Honduran Government would be involved. Should this be the case, I am under the impression that the Congress would reject this participation. I would like to explain my idea clearly: The Army, like the university, or any other institution, can expand its exchanges with the other countries, especially with the other Central American countries. However, if the levels of exchange lead to the possibility that foreign troops would be stationed in Honduras, Congress would have to give its approval. In this case, I think that Congress would reject the presence of foreign troops in our territory. [end recording]

Juan Pablo Urrutia, representative of the National Party of Honduras, said the following: [Begin Urrutia recording] I don't think Honduras should allow troops to be trained in our country so they can go elsewhere to defend their countries. Honduras must remain neutral in every sense. Other countries' problems should be resolved by their own peoples. [end recording]

Reynaldo Baeza Penalba categorically expressed his disagreement with this information: [Begin recording] [Baeza] I think that that is a complete lie because our country cannot be used to train the forces of other countries.

[Question] Would this be a provocation?

[Answer] Most definitely.

[Question] As a deputy, what would you do if this situation were discussed in the National Congress?

[Answer] (?I would request) that the national Constitution be respected. (?that would be all). [end recording]

GOVERNMENT DENIES FOREIGN MINISTER MEETING PLANS

PA161953 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Communique issued by the Honduran Foreign Secretariat on 16 March in Tegucigalpa -- read by announcer]

[Text] In view of reports published by some local news media on Saturday regarding a possible meeting of foreign ministers of the continent sponsored by the Honduran Government, the Foreign Secretariat states:

1. It is totally false that Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has issued a statement to this effect. Everything is due to a regrettable error of interpretation that cannot be blamed on the news media.

2. The Honduran Government, aware of the need to contribute to a solution that will bring peace to the Central American region, is working with great interest on a meeting of Central American foreign ministers with the participation of the foreign ministers of the Latin American countries of the Caribbean region.

3. So far there has been no official (?invitation) for a visit by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins to participate in any kind of continental-level meeting, as has been reported.

NICARAGUA

FDN GROUP REJECTS CRITICISM OF EDEN PASTORA

PA161907 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Mar 83 p 4

[Text] San Pedro Sula -- The National Directorate of the "Recovery of the Revolution" movement of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) yesterday rejected the statement Edgard Chamorro Coronel made to a capital city radio station.

An authorized FDN spokesman told TIEMPO yesterday that at no time had the National Directorate "authorized Chamorro to speak against Commander Cero, Eden Pastora."

During a radio interview published in Saturday's TIEMPO, Chamorro Coronel said that the FDN had given Pastora a 2-month deadline to "join the fight on the battleground," or be considered a "Marxist-Leninist, just like the nine Sandinist commanders."

During the lengthy interview, "ECC" [Edgard Chamorro Coronel] said that "for months Pastora has been attacking the FDN," and that it was time for "a member of the organization's National Directorate to denounce him."

"Chamorro is definitely not a member of the FDN National Directorate nor has the National Directorate authorized him to speak," the spokesman said.

Cero Speaks to TIEMPO

Meanwhile, Commander Eden Pastora spoke with TIEMPO yesterday from someplace in Central America. He was surprised by the "nonsense" spread by alleged FDN member Edgard Chamorro Coronel.

"Who is Edgard Chamorro?" Pastora asked. Answering his own question he said, "because of his surname I imagine that he is a Nicaraguan. But," he added, "I can't respond to his nonsense because I don't know who he is."

In an indirect response to Chamorro's statement, Pastora reiterated what he recently said in San Jose, Costa Rica: "The movement I lead, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), is not participating in armed actions inside Nicaragua, but on 15 April I will announce some operations that will sink the nine commanders that betrayed the will of a people that struggled against Somoza's dictatorship. From now on there will be no more talking," Pastora said.

ARDE PROMISES 'POWERFUL' ACTION AGAINST REGIME

PA150138 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1820 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] San Jose, 14 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Revolutionary Democratic Association (ARDE) announced here today that "powerful political" actions will be carried out to prevent the continued "delivery of Nicaragua to Cuba and the Soviet Union."

According to ARDE political secretary Anibal Arana, the Nicaraguan people "will demonstrate before the next anniversary of the overthrow of Somoza's dictatorship that they want a political structure other than either Leninism or capitalism, because they don't want to return to the past." The ARDE spokesman also stated that the Nicaraguan people realize that they can't be "Leninist and democratic at the same time" and that the Sandinists made this evident at the mass held by Pope John Paul II in Managua on 4 March.

Meanwhile, Alvaro Taboada, a former Sandinist ambassador to Ecuador who resigned from his post in November of last year, said that he resigned because the "Sandinist revolution was diverted in favor of orthodox Marxism-Leninism." Taboada said here that ARDE is increasingly working politically to give the people access "to a revolution that will truly change their lives." According to the diplomat, ARDE has an internal organization in Nicaragua that is different from that which existed during the struggle against Somoza.

Finally, the ARDE representatives said that this time "there will be no use of any neighboring country's territory for the final struggle against the Managua government junta, since the fighting, which will be massive, quick and powerful, will be done inside.

TIRADO LOPEZ SPEAKS ON SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION

PA140255 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 27 Feb 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez has opened the Constitutive National Assembly "heroes and martyrs of the working class fallen in the construction of socialism" with a vibrant speech. The event took place in the Sandinist Workers Federation, CST, building.

This important event for Nicaragua's workers began yesterday morning and will last 2 days. Participating in this event are 298 delegates from throughout the country.

Decisive Moment

Commander Tirado said: "It looks like the moment for resolving the Central American crisis is getting near. It is a matter of weeks or months, but it looks like we are going in that direction and we must be ready for any eventuality; a military or a political way out."

Commander Tirado said this while analyzing the Central American situation and the latest threats of U.S. President Ronald Reagan who has said: "We will not permit the triumph and consolidation of revolutions in Central America."

Space for Genocidal People

Commander Tirado added: "Reagan has reiterated that there is no space for the Sandinist revolution in the region because, according to him, he is reserving this space, apparently, for traitors and oligarchic and genocidal people."

Commander Tirado continued: "meanwhile, the sensible governments of Latin America and Europe are pushing for a negotiated solution to the conflicts, without U.S. exclusions and supremacy." He stated: "The workers will play a very important role. They must guarantee the country's production and defense. This task can and must be carried out. The Nicaraguan working class has demonstrated the vigor, the energy, the intelligence and the courage to defeat adversity."

Socialism

Finally, Commander Tirado stated, "I am going to talk about a subject that has been discussed by the workers and that is in the mind of many companeros; the matter of socialism."

He said: "The Nicaraguan working class, the majority, sees in socialism a radical and long-term -- some see it as a short-term -- solution to their problems. The ideas about what socialism will be, or should be, in Nicaragua are still unclear. This is only natural."

He added: "At the proper moment we will take the road to socialism, but before it is necessary, it is important to have a very clear idea about the step we are going to take."

Decreeing Socialism Would Not Solve the Problem

It is necessary to realize, he said, that socialism will be built in a backward country that does not have large industry and whose economy is based on agriculture and the agriculture industry. We have very few qualified cadres and a cultural anchor that has not yet been weighed; for this reason, the big-industry days still look far away.

"In other words," he said, "socialist construction will not occur in the midst of abundance, which would be ideal, but with whatever we have available. We must always be aware of this because one could think that just by proclaiming socialism all the problems will be solved as if by magic."

Our Country Requires Sacrifices

"The socialism we are going to build under these conditions requires big sacrifices, labor discipline, heightening of the cultural and technical level and, especially, much work from the workers and the peasants, as well as unselfish international solidarity," he said.

He added: "We are not saying this to discourage you but to make evident the complexity and size of our task the moment we decide to take the socialist road. This task will be more difficult than the struggle to overthrow Somoza and the struggle against the bands that attack us on our borders."

Commander Tirado added: "However, it is a source of much satisfaction that the Nicaraguan workers look at socialism in their search for radical and solid solutions. We cheer this attitude and tell them; onward, but without false illusions, with a clear view of what we want and can do."

A CST Definition

CST leaders reported that the assembly will last 2 days and that its main objective is to discuss the statutes that will rule the CST. Another objective is the drafting of a struggle plan and the election of the National Executive Committee.

TINOCO: NONALIGNED UNITY REAFFIRMED AT SUMMIT

PA161631 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Victor Hugo Tinoco, Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister, has stressed that at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit held earlier this month in New Delhi, unity was reaffirmed despite the movement's heterogeneous composition.

At a news conference he held in Managua shortly after he returned from New Delhi, Tinoco stressed tht there had been general willingness to strengthen the movement and to preserve it as an instrument useful to developing peoples for the defense of their economic and political interests. Further on, he said that the movement is not isolated, as some enemies point out. Instead, he added, it is a heterogeneous conglomerate, where points of agreement are sought and found.

LATE REPORT: FDN OUTLINES OPPOSITION TO JUNTA

PA170250 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 9 Mar 83 p 3-A

[Paid advertisement issued by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force]

[Text] On 13 January 1983, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) launched a peace initiative to the world. It was widely broadcast and, despite the fact that it included a prudential deadline, has gone unanswered by the Nicaraguan Government. In the peace initiative we urged the Sandinist regime to fulfill the objectives of the Nicaraguan revolution as stated by the regime itself.

The junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua itself, in its plan to achieve peace, which according to them was based "on the guidelines of the resolution issued by the 17th OAS consultative meeting of 23 June 1979," committed itself before the Nicaraguan people, the OAS and the whole world to the faithful fulfillment of the June 1979 original government program and the fundamental statute that were part of the plan. All this was included in a letter that the junta sent to the OAS secretary general on 12 July 1979.

In view of the violation of these commitments, which have led to a harmful process of a Marxist totalitarian dictatorship, many claims have been made by the Nicaraguan democratic parties and from us. These claims, however, have found no echo in the Sandinist government. Likewise, most of the American governments have not taken into consideration these numerous civic and patriotic claims based on the OAS agreements and charter.

Not even the serious fact that Nicaragua has become a base for Soviet aggression that attempts against our continent's security has moved the American government's to begin group political and diplomatic procedures as contemplated in the inter-American treaties.

It would seem that the countries of the continent, it is sad to say, are demanding new blood and new sacrifices by the Nicaraguan people before they start some kind of political action. It would seem that the American countries are waiting for the Nicaraguan people to engage in another armed struggle to save themselves and the region from the totalitarian Marxist threat.

Having reached this painful conclusion, we have organized an authentic national army, the real national army as was conceived in the government program and fundamental statute of the revolution. In other words, formed by Nicaraguan patriots of all parties and democratic organizations, by thousands of Miskito brothers, by former National Guard soldiers and officers who were not involved in the Somozist dictatorship's crimes, and even by members of the Sandinst army and militia who have joined us so as not to be accomplices of the Marxist tyranny implanted in our fatherland.

Our national army is already struggling in the Nicaraguan mountains. We know that the struggle is difficult but we are prepared to make every sacrifice and we trust that the free people of America and the world will not forsake a people like the Nicaraguans, who fought for liberty and continue fighting for liberty against every type of despotism and tyranny.

Under these circumstances we want to clearly define our struggle's immediate postulates and objectives:

1. First, we reject any effort at trying to link us with the Somozist past. The Somozist dictatorship died in July 1979 and has been politically buried by history. It was physically buried along with the dictator.

2. We defend the nationalist and patriotic character of historic Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino against the deformation that international Marxism, through the FSLN, promotes. If Sandino were alive, he would reject the FSLN militants the same way that he rejected Farabundo Marti, a Salvadoran communist, and others.

3. Only the Nicaraguan people, through free, just and honest elections, have the right to decide the revolution's path and its postulates. Only the people, in the broadest democratic pluralism, must determine the party or political group to form the nation's government.

4. Once Nicaragua is liberated from communism, we will install in our fatherland a broadly representative provisional government that will include members of the various groups now opposing the Sandinist regime.

5. We are not motivated by any hatred or feeling of revenge. Honest public employees with democratic sentiments who are not tied to the Marxist conspiracy will be able to continue working for the state. Likewise, Sandinist policemen and army soldiers who have committed no crime and show they have democratic sentiments will be able to join the national army and police if they wish. However, we warn the thousands of Marxist foreigners, the so-called "internationalists" who have occupied and are suppressing our fatherland, that they must leave immediately because we will be implacable with them if they do not.

6. Our main objective is the effective exercise of fully guaranteed human rights as established in the American Human Rights Convention. To achieve this objective, it is necessary to revise processes outside the law and special courts, just as it is recommended by the International Commission of Jurists, and to slowly return everything seized de facto as well as everything that has been seized from legitimate owners through decrees and laws that violate human rights. It is equally necessary to install complete freedom of religion and to return seized temples.

7. We will promote the now trampled university autonomy as well as reform of study plans at all levels to make them adequate for the democratic sentiments and spirit of our culture and nationality.

8. We will guarantee complete liberty of labor unions, trade unions and professional associations.

9. We will revise the current agrarian reform and give provisional titles to the peasants that will permit them to usufruct the land and, later, definite ownership titles so that they can derive all the benefits, not just those from the use of the land, which is what the Marxist government provides while forcing the peasants to sell their product to the government.

10. We will draft a well-balanced national budget that will be announced to the Nicaraguan people in detail.

11. We will immediately implement a public-expenditures austerity policy and give incentives to production as the basis for the national economy's recovery.

12. We will maintain diplomatic relations with all nations on the basis of strict reciprocity and respect for the principle of nonintervention. Our foreign policy will be based on American solidarity and legality and on respect for our international commitments with other countries and the United Nations.

13. We reiterate our decision to convoke municipal and Constituent National Assembly elections within a year. This Constituent National Assembly, as the highest expression of the people's will, will definitely establish Nicaragua's new constitutional system. To fulfill this goal, advice and participation will be sought from all the national democratic sectors; technical assistance will be sought from international organizations such as the OAS.

This is a summary of our main postulates and objectives. Our struggle has already begun in the Nicaraguan mountains. Soon, the Marxist tyranny that is oppressing us will feel the pressure resulting from our patriotic efforts, and we hope that collective action from the countries of the continent will help impede a prolonged and bloody war and prevent more deaths.

We reiteratd our faith in God, in our people, in the free people of the world and in the principles of liberty, justice and democracy. [Signed] National Directorate Nicaraguan Democratic Force Edgard Chamorro Coronel; Enrique Bermudez Varel; Marco A. Zeledon Rosales; Indalecio Rodriguez Alaniz; Lucia C. Salazar; Alfonso Callejas Deshon; Adolfo Calero Portocarrero;

[Dated] February 1983 Person responsible: Luis Guillermo Mesen Quiros, Identification Card No 1-153-556

HAVANA ON 'EXPANDED U.S. ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES'

PA161235 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 83

["World Events" commentary by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] Concurrently with its headlong arms buildup, the U.S. Government is carrying out a large-scale espionage and penetration campaign against the socialist countries as well as intensive propaganda and interventionist actions in the states of the so-called Third World.

As part of the so-called crusade against communism sponsored by President Ronald Reagan, the leading U.S. spy agencies have stepped up their activities in several countries. Of the $832 million which the 1984 budget allocates to government agencies connected with propaganda and foreign policy, $65 million has been appropriated for this work. According to current U.S. Government plans, this sum will provide support to political and social institutions of countries that defend Washington's ideological principles. These organizations include political parties, mass media, trade unions, religious groups and universities as well as their respective leaders.

In order to coordinate all U.S. subversive propaganda efforts abroad, Reagan created a special group which is headed by the National Security council and is composed of the secretaries of state and defense and the director of the information agency, among others.

The plan for open meddling in the internal affairs of free and sovereign countries is called public diplomacy by its creators and is presumably apart from the work of the leading U.S. espionage institution; that is, the well-known CIA. However, it differs in no way from the CIA's methods. For decades, that spy agency has used similar programs to meddle in many countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe. It is no secret that the CIA has participated in many attempts on the lives of statesmen, politicians and personalities who are an obstacle to Washington's plans.

The CIA has also committed acts of sabotage and participated in coups d'etat. It has been reliably confirmed that the CIA participated in the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, Amilcar Cabral, Martin Luther King, Orlando Letelier and many others who have struggled for their people's freedom.

It is also known that the CIA organized assassination attempts on Fidel Castro, Samora Machel and the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The CIA, which works closely with the Israeli spy agencies, is directly linked to the massacres of Palestinian and Lebanese patriots. The North American press as well as the press of other Western countries has repeatedly charged that many terrorist acts in Africa have been carried out with either the knowledge or direct participation of the CIA. Now, with the same methods and under the pretext of strengthening democratic institutions in free and sovereign countries which have not asked for its help, the United States has assumed the function of interfereing in the internal affairs of those states, mainly in the European socialist countries and progressive and revolutionary countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Besides resorting to blackmail and threatening to use force, President Ronald Reagan has adopted the same subversive plans as his predecessors.

He is publicly making decisions for millions of people whose interests do not coincide with Washington's. Furthermore, President Reagan is trying to subjugate these peoples. Such behavior reaffirms what many people have already personally experienced: In the contemporary era, North American imperialism is humankind's worst enemy.

CASTRO PRAISES GRENADA ON FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

PA160335 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the PCC, has said that the firmness demonstrated by Grenada in its foreign policy has placed this small Caribbean island in the vanguard of the people's struggle for peace. This is stated in a message Fidel Castro sent to the New Jewel Movement and Grenadian Government on the fourth anniversary of the Grenadian revolution.

The message underscores the outstanding efforts of the Grenadian Revolutionary Government for unity among the Caribbean Community and in solving the socio-economic problems of the region. The message also praises the contribution made by Grenadian revolution toward the development and strengthening of the Nonaligned Movement, in which this small state has played an important role in accordance with the principles of unity and anti-imperialism.

We trust, the message adds, that the growing ties of brotherhood, friendship and cooperation between Cuba and Grenada will be further strengthened for the benefit of our peoples and for development and solidarity in relations among the Latin American and Caribbean states. The message reiterates the support of the Cuban people for the Grenadian revolution and ends by stating that Cuba will always offer its support and solidarity to Grenada.

U.S. TRIES TO GAIN TIME IN SALT NEGOTIATIONS

FL161533 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1243 GMT 16 Mar 83

[International commentary by Jose Ferandez Vilela from the staff of the "Revista de la Manana" program and Irma Caceres from the PRENSA LATINA staff -- live]

[Excerpts] [Fernandez Vilela] Today we are going to discuss the U.S. efforts to block the Geneva talks on the reduction and limitation of strategic weapons. This is a topic that has great contemporary importance because the present sessions of these talks must end on 28 March.

Good morning friends. The world has received a new confirmation that the U.S. Government doesn't want to reach an agreement on the limitation and reduction of strategic weapons. Thus opposing not only the wishes of humankind but also those of its own people including a large number of congressmen.

The fact is that the White House announced that the United States will not make any new proposals within the framework of the talks it is holding with the USSR regarding the Euromissiles before the end of the present period of sessions being held in Geneva and which must end as I mentioned before on 28 March.

This confirms once more that the U.S. administration remains firm about the unacceptable and unwise zero option as the only formula for negotiations. Therefore, it is keeping the negotiations at a standstill in order to be able to begin the deployment of the 572 cruise and Pershing-2 missiles late this year as planned.

Well, Irma, this is the topic we must comment on today.

[Caceres] We could also ask what the reason behind the U.S. decision to make such a statement at this time is. Why does the U.S. Government have such an ambiguous position regarding these talks.

I am saying this because these talks, which resumed in November and must end soon, are very important. However, we have been witnessing how the United States has been changing... [changes thought] has been assuming an ambiguous position. The Soviet Union has publicly pointed this out several times.

I am referring to the fact that the United States initially tried to -- independent from President Ronald Reagan's so-called zero option which means that the United States would keep its military superiority to the detriment of the Soviet Union -- get a unilateral Soviet disarmament while the United States kept its military strength.

This warmongering policy does not only entail the control of wealth in certain geographic areas but also political control. however, there is a more hidden reason for this policy. It is a reason that does not always become known to the public: The great economic power gained by militaristic industries with an arms buildup.

We must reiterate that the United States felt compelled to resume the talks in November because of international protests and demands not only from citizens of Western Europe but from all over the world. The Soviet Union viewed this as a very positive step. From its traditional peaceful position, the USSR, of course, intended to make these talks constructive, but the United States subsequently maintained a posture of force with the zero option. However, there are contradictions in the relations between five Western European countries, where the missiles must be deployed, and the United States. They are not only economic but political contradictions.

[Fernandez Vilela] It was reported this morning that the EEC stated that the talks should not stop. The FRG Government, which is the coordinator of the EEC, said that a provisional agreement must be reached. The Reagan administration is also seeking a provisional agreement. Although the EEC noted that the zero option is the only valid one in the future, it had to admit that the people's pressure in Western Europe called for a provisional agreement to keep the talks going. Otherwise, they will stop due to the intransigent and negative attitude of the U.S. Government.

[Caceres] I believe that George Bush's recent trip to Western Europe to try to convince the allies and the European citizens that the U.S. position does not pose a threat for them shows how the United States has gradually been changing its position as time goes by. Sometimes it reiterates its zero option, other times it tries to justify its arms buildup. There are even other times when it shows some flexibility but then it goes back to its initial stance that there will be no change in its position. Well, all the United States is trying to do is to gain time in order to try to appease this international wave of protests. It is really crazy to try to increase the arms buildup. We must note how the USSR has been constantly repeating that the United States is not being honest in this type of negotiations.

MALMIERCA ENDS VISIT TO HUNGARY, OFF TO SPAIN

FL161600 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1502 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidora Malmierca left Budapest today after concluding a 3-day friendly and official visit to Hungary. Malmierca, who departed for Spain to fulfill an invitation extended by Spanish authorities, held official talks in Budapest with his colleague Frigyes Puja. At the end of the talks, Malmierca and Puja signed a joint communique which reflected the close bonds of friendship between the two countries.

The Cuban foreign minister was received by top Hungarian leader Janos Kadar, to whom he conveyed a greeting from our commander in chief, Fidel Castro. He also met with Hungarian Chairman Gyorgy Lazar and discussed matters related to the international situation and the development of bilateral ties.

HART MEETS WITH SPANISH PRIME MINISTER

FL161300 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] The prime minister of the Spanish Government, Felipe Gonzalez, last night met with Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart who is on an official visit to Spain. In the 55-minute meeting they discussed topics of bilateral, political and cultural interest. The Central American situation was also a topic of interest in the meeting between the head of the Spanish Government and the Cuban culture minister.

Interviewed by reporters upon leaving Gonzalez' office, Hart said they had agreed on the need to find negotiated solutions to settle the problems in the region. All countries of the world, Hart added, should cooperate in finding a negotiated political settlement in Central America, particularly in El Salvador. Hart said that U.S. plans are not only a threat to Central America, but to the rest of the world as well. Spain, he added, has proven itself politically mature in recent years and ought to strengthen its ties with Latin America in order to strengthen peace and cooperation. Hart stressed the need to work toward cultural unity in our region as prerequisite to achieve political unity. Hart also had a friendly meeting Tuesday with Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran.

U.S. SUPPORT FOR 200-MILE JURISDICTION SCORED

PA161803 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 83

["World Events" Commentary by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] The United States, which has been so opposed to the underdeveloped countries' decision to establish a coastal economic zone, and which is one of the few countries that has refused to sign the international Law of the Sea Convention, has reported in a threatening tone that it will exercise jurisdiction over a 200-mile zone effective March 10.

With the rudeness that characterizes those who regard force as appropriate international behavior, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the alleged U.S. rights over mining and fishing operations within the 200-mile zone. He unceremoniously presented the body before announcing the execution, limiting himself to remarking that whatever jurisdictional problems result from this measure will be discussed bilaterally with the parties concerned.

The North American intent is clear. In view of international rejection of its arrogant policy on the world's oceans, the White House, sanctuary of the transnational companies, intends to secure for its partners a vast space in which to operate without any consideration or legal restrictions.

The new aggression against the economies of the underdeveloped countries follows the imperialist attitude of authorizing the exploitation of undersea resources in the Pacific area. The measure was adopted before the signing of the International Law of the Sea Convention and was intended to demonstrate the United States' arrogance. The measure was also adopted so that the international agreement would be concluded with a fait accompli which would immediately become a disruptive element.

Washington's basic objective is not to allow, as its spokesmen have said, nations with limited economic power to decide on or to participate in the exploitation of undersea mineral deposits, much less obtain an equitable and just share of the profit. This was the reason for Washington's heated opposition to the international treaty signed in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The treaty will be ratified at a later meeting.

However, the Yankee decision entails further dangers. The anarchy in North American industrial production, the tycoons' lack of scruples and the public officials' shamelessness have made the United States one of the nations in which environmental pollution is now unbearable. To the indiscriminate dumping of wastes in seas, rivers and unpopulated areas must be added the bribery and corruption among those who are supposed to regulate these activities so that they will not affect human beings.

Recently, many citizens protested the government's decision to dump radioactive wastes off the California coasts. In addition, Anne Burford, head of the Environment Protection Agency, had to resign due to her involvement in the misuse of funds of that agency, which is directly linked to the White House. With such background, it is possible to imagine what will happen to the marine areas where the U.S.-based transnationals are supposed to operate. These companies have enough influence in the federal government to do as they please.

So again the United States is pitted against the world.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

HEALTH MINISTER ASKS U.S. TO INCREASE AID

FL141702 Bridgetown CANA in English 2154 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, March 13, CANA -- A senior cabinet minister here has called on the United States and other friendly countries to raise the level of development assistance to the Caribbean to help its governments combat the spread of communism in the region.

Speaking at a public meeting in St Johns, Antigua and Barbuda's health minister, Christopher O. Mard, said he was surprised that the United States could be making as much as 110 million (U.S.) dollars in military aid available to El Salvador while offering a lot less to economic development in individual Caribbean countries.

The kind of money being made available to El Salvador was what Eastern Caribbean countries needed to give their economies a push, the minister said.

If small developing countries in the eastern Caribbean are to combat communist infiltration and to develop their economies, Mr. O. Mard added, the level of foreign aid to the region would have to be raised significantly.

Minister O. Mard suggested that the United States take another look at its bilateral assistance to Antigua and Barbuda and other eastern Caribbean countries in an effort to stimulate growth in their economies as a strategy against what he said was the communist cold war.

ARUBA

AGREEMENT CALLS FOR SEPARATE STATUS IN 1986

FL121910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1837 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] The Hague, March 12, CANA-REUTER -- The Caribbean Island of Aruba will be given a "separate status" within the six-island Netherlands Antilles in 1986 under an agreement reached here today at the end of a round table conference.

The week-long conference led by Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers was attended by delegations of the Dutch and Antillean central governments and local governments of the six islands -- Curacao, Aruba, Bonaire, St. Martin, St. Eustatius and Saba.

Under the separate status agreement which will come into force on January 1, 1986, Aruba and the other five islands will form a new Antillean union aimed at forging cooperation and precluding competition between the two sides.

Mr Lubbers told a press conference the accord also gives Aruba full independence from the Netherlands about 10 years after the island assumes its separate status. But the 1996 date for independence was flexible and depended on how cooperation between Aruba and the other islands within the Antillean union developed.

He said agreement on several issues still had to be reached between Aruba and the other five islands.

These included sharing out of the antilles' financial reserves, exploitation of Aruba's mineral riches and technical aspects of the introduction of Aruba's own currency.

The monetary and oil issues proved to be difficult problems during the conference, which was due to end yesterday but had to be extended until today.

The delegates agreed that oil exploitation would come under the control of the island where the mineral is present, but agreements would have to be reached on sharing the financial yield of exploitation with the others.

Mr Lubbers said the Netherlands was prepared to continue cooperation with Aruba after full independence in 1996. This would include development aid, administration of justice, culture, education, foreign affairs and defence.

Mr Lubbers expressed satisfaction at the conference result today following an abortive round table conference in 1981 on Aruba's future which led to a deterioration of the political climate in the Antilles.

Aruba has pressed for several decades for independence from Curacao. It has strongly resented the administrative dominance of the larger island which is the seat of the central government.

BARBADOS

DISMISSED SECRETARY LEROY SISNETT REAPPOINTED

FL121532 Bridgetown CANA in English 1511 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 12, CANA -- the Barbados Government which revoked the appointment of Parliamentary Secretary Leroy Sisnett on March 1, today announced his reappointment to the same post with effect from next Monday.

Mr Sisnett, 41, has been junior minister for tourism and civil aviation since the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) was returned to power in 1981 general elections.

No reason was given by the government for his dismissal or his reappointment and Mr Sisnett has declined to comment on the issue, except to deny press suggestions that he would cross the floor.

Authoritative sources here two weeks ago said Sisnett had been censured for being unavailable last month to act for the minister of agriculture when required.

But the sources said that the junior minister was in fact overseas on business for Caribbean Airways, Barbados' national airline, when he was needed for the acting appointment.

NEWSPAPER DEFENDS CBI AGAINST TAITT'S CHARGES

FL151454 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 8 Mar 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Some Cold Facts About the CBI"]

[Text] The concerns expressed by former minister of trade, Mr Branford Taitt, now president of the Democratic Labour Party, over the implications of the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), are not likely to dampen regional enthusiasm for the proposal. The most that can be expected at this stage is that the opportunity be taken to face up to a number of cold facts where the CBI is concerned.

Mr Taitt, speaking at a symposium organised by his party, entitled "toward national reconstruction", was firmly of the view that the CBI as proposed, could lead to the Caribbean having a heavy dependence on the United States. So strong would be this dependency, according to Mr Taitt, that it could well lead to an abdication of our country's responsibility to itself and the rest of the region where efforts to raise the level of our economic and psychological self worth are required.

What Mr Taitt fears comes over in almost perfect contrast to what some others feel about the CBI. There is a strong school of thought that the CBI can provide that needed opportunity for the region to build its economic strength in the context of national sovereignty, and freedom. This view holds that there can be no real freedom without economic freedom.

Mr Taitt's opinion of the impact of the CBI as it now stands is not on all fours with this view but nonetheless he links national sovereignty and economic freedom. His grouse about the CBI, as proposed is that it will make the region so dependent on the United States that the sovereignty of the Caribbean states involved will take second place to what the United States dictates.

Furthermore, Mr Taitt says we have a choice. We need not rely on the CBI as we obviously plan to do. We can try to do more for ourselves. The other school of thought is that we cannot do without the CBI and should go all out to get it moving as a godsend.

It is not difficult to appreciate from a United States point of view that the CBI will be put over as part of the country's foreign policy. The Reagan administration has never hidden that CBI favours will go to those regarded as friends of the United States in the region. It would also be difficult to have support at home for the CBI plan if it is not put over to Americans this way.

For many years there has been the claim that the United States has failed to realise that it has a commitment to the region. The CBI can be regarded as an effort to show this commitment. But at the same time it must be remembered that the plan has been prompted be developments in the region involving the advance of socialism and Russian or Cuban inputs. In the circumstances it is almost inevitable that the CBI will reflect "an American ideological bias."

Mr Taitt made the pint about the "American ideological bias" and it is a point well taken. However, the reality of the situation is not the same as that which surrounds the Lome Conventions, with which Mr Taitt compared the CBI approach. We got involved in Lome because it was accepted, and almost taken for granted, that growing out of our colonial past was a British commitment to her former colonies even in the context of their independence and national sovereignty.

We do not believe that the United States would care to see itself in any commitment to the Caribbean region, in the same way as Britain would as a former colonial power. This we must accept, the Monroe Doctrine not withstanding.

The main problem we face in the Caribbean when we talk about striving to build our economies with limited outside help and even in circumstances where we will call the tune, is that the economies of the states in the region are not all at the same level. For example, with the type of setbacks a country like Dominica has experienced it would be hard for her leaders to talk in the same terms about the CBI as Mr Taitt has.

There are few Caribbean countries that can really negotiate from positions of economic strength. And while this does not weaken the argument about national sovereignty it does make a difference to the level of compromise many are prepared to accept in search of needed economic growth.

TRADE WITH CARICOM INCREASES BY $11.2 MILLION

FL161802 Bridgetown CANA in English 1738 GMT 16 Mar 83

[By Irvine Reid]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 16, CANA -- The first 10 months of last year saw Barbados increasing its trade with the rest of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) by 11.2 million dollars (one Bds dollar; 50 cents U.S.) official figures here show. January to October sales to CARICOM totalled 109.1 million dollars. The corresponding figure in 1981 was 97.9 million dollars. The government statistical service said. Barbados' imports from CARICOM fell by 34.4 million dollars from 156.2 million at the end of October 1981 to 121.8 million dollars.

Trinidad and Tobago absorbed the bulk of Barbados exports -- 66 million dollars worth over the ten month period, compared with 47 million dollars in 1981 an increase of 19 million dollars. Barbados' exports were mainly garments, plasticware, furniture, confectionary, rum, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, food and paper products and insecticides. Barbados exports to Jamaica were down by 2.4 million dollars from 17.1 million dollars in 1981 to 14.7 million dollars last year and imports down from 22.1 million dollars to 20.9 million dollars a decline of 1.2 million dollars.

Barbados imports from Trinidad and Tobago during the ten months period last year contracted by 29.4 million dollars from 115.4 million dollars in 1981 to 86 million dollars last year. The statistical service said that during the first ten months of last year Guyana bought 1.5 million dollars in goods from Barbados, compared with 2.5 million dollars worth in 1981, while Barbados' imports from Guyana fell to 4.9 million dollars from 6.9 million dollars in 1981. Barbados sold Antigua and Barbuda 3.5 million dollars in goods between January and October last year compared with 3.9 million dollars in 1981, while imports from Antigua for the same period stood at 1.1 million dollars compared with 1.2 million dollars in 1981. Exports to Dominica totalled at 2.7 million dollars during the review period last year compared with 3.2 million dollars in 1981 and imports were 507,000 dollars compared with one million dollars in 1981.

In other trade with CARICOM, Barbados exported 7.5 million dollars in goods to St Lucia compared with 9.9 million dollars in 1981, a decline of 2.4 million dollars and imports fell from 4.5 million dollars in 1981 to four million dollars last year. Exports to St Kitts/Nevis stood at 2.3 million dollars at the end of October 1982 compared with 2.5 million dollars in the previous year, while imports went down from 409,000 dollars in 1981 to 64,000 dollars last year. Exports to St Vincent and the Grenadines were 5.5 million dollars compared with 6.7 million dollars in 1981, a decline of 1.2 million dollars. However, imports from St Vincent and the Grenadines during the ten months period of last year rose from 2.7 million dollars January to October in 1981 to 2.8 million dollars last year.

BERMUDA

SHADOW MINISTER QUITS OVER RIFT WITH LEADERSHIP

FL161725 Bridgetown CANA in English 1612 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, March 16, CANA -- Another opposition member of Parliament has quit the shadow cabinet -- the latest in a series of rifts within the Progressive Labour Party (PLP) over its leadership.

Mr Austin Thomas confirmed that he stepped down as shadow minister of health and social services towards the end of last month. A successor has yet to be named. Asked if there was a reason, the fiery Mr Thomas said: "Yes, indeed. I am not happy with the present leadership."

"I cannot see myself working under it in the shadow cabinet," he added. Curiously, his brother, Dr. George Thomas, is a backbencher on the other side of the of Assembly having created an upset by winning a seat for the ruling United Bermuda Party (UBP) in Hamilton West in last month's general election.

After its drubbing in the election -- the UBP picked up an extra four seats and now has a 12-seat majority in the 40-seat House -- the PLP reaffirmed lawyer Mrs Lois Browne Evans, 55, as its leader but surprisingly voted in Eugene Cox as deputy leader in place of Frederick Wade, who had held the post for nearly seven years. Last November party stalwart Gilbert Darrell relinquished his post as shadow planning and environment minister because of what sources said was a serious disagreement with Mrs Browne Evans.

Party spokesman Senator David Allen said he was not "unduly concerned" at the resignation of Mr Thomas, who easily retained his seat for the PLP in the election. "Anyone has the right to disagree," said Sen Allen. He said Mrs Browne Evans had been returned as leader by a three to one majority and added: "It would be unrealistic to expect every single member to support the leader."

The PLP has begun a court action to get the election result -- the PLP won 14 seats to the UBP's 26 -- declared null and void on the grounds of election errors.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT CALLS REAGAN STATEMENT 'PROVOCATIVE'

FL121530 Bridgetown CANA in English 1438 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Excerpt] St Georges, Grenada, March 12, CANA -- The Grenada Government has taken issue with the United States over a suggestion by President Reagan that the Caribbean island constitutes a threat to American security.

An official statement here called the comment provocative, untruthful and indicative of plans for "further destabilization" of Grenada.

President Reagan in a Washington speech Thursday on U.S. efforts to combat communism in Latin America and the Caribbean has scoffed at arguments that America need not be concerned by alleged Cuban control of 133 square mile Grenada because the island's only import product was nutmeg.

Mr Reagan said: "It is not nutmeg that is at stake in the Caribbean and Central America, it is United States' national security." People who argued that Grenada or other Caribbean and Central American countries did not matter "haven't... followed the extraordinary build-up of Soviet and Cuban military power in the region," the U.S. President said. The Grenada Government said of Mr Reagan's comments: "This is an extremely serious and extremely grave statement, and is one which countries historically do not make about other countries unless they are about to go to war with such countries. "It is no longer an attack on our domestic policies, or an attack on our foreign policy. It is no longer an attack on us on the grounds that we do cow-tow to the United States and that they are hostile to what we are trying to do in Grenada. "It is now stating to the American public and to world opinion that Grenada, this tiny nation of 110-thousand proud, freedom-loving hard working people, is a threat to the national security of the United States.

"Ronald Reagan, who has enough satellites and planes spying over our skies every day, who has enough spies operating on the ground in our country, in a situation where people can come in here as tourists or as visitors and go everywhere they wish by bus, by taxi, by foot, knows full well the true situation in Grenada. Yet he was bold faced enough to state... to the American nation and the world that Grenada has naval bases, Cuban and Russian naval bases and other sophisticated military installations. Now Grenada is a country so tiny, with villages and houses in every nook and cranny that it is not possible to hide anything in Grenada for more than a few minutes.

"So we must understand that Ronald Reagan knows the truth and that what we are seeing here is not just a pack of lies, but a statement made in the full knowledge, the conscious knowledge that what he is peddling is a pack of lies.

JAMAICA

FIRST BAUXITE SHIPMENT SENT TO USSR 9 MARCH

FL161614 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Mar 83 p 1

[Excerpts] The Soviet ship Yasnoe left the Reynolds Pier in Ocho Rios on Wednesday, March 9 with 23,000 long wet tons of bauxite. This is the first consignment of 200,000 tons scheduled for shipping this year on a trial basis before the major contract between the Government of Jamaica and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics starts in 1984. This contract, announced by the prime minister last year, will supply the Soviet Union with one million tons of bauxite each year until 1990. The expected net return to Jamaica is US $20 million.

There are to be two shipments per month for the rest of 1983. The bauxite is purchased from the bauxite companies by Batco. The government has the option of buying and shipping from Reynolds or Kaiser, long-term price is still under negotiation. The next ship which is scheduled to take another 23,000 tons, is due in the last week of March and will also come to Reynolds.

None of the executives contacted would quote the price at which Batco has acquired this shipment. According to one official this is "confidential to the three entities... no one talks about price when competition is so stiff."

WPA CRITICIZES DECISION TO CUT FOOD IMPORTS

FL141645 Bridgetown CANA in English 1519 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 13, CANA -- The Guyana Government's cut-back on food imports because of a shortage of foreign exchange should encourage Guyanese to produce more food, according to Gavin Kennard, agricultural advisor to President Forbes Burnham. But the opposition Working People's Alliance (WPA) has charged that the government went too far and its import policy has led to widespread malnutrition among children.

In its newspaper, "Dayclean," the WPA said: "In 1981, 117 children under five died at Georgetown Hospital. Between January 1982 and November 1982, 172 children under five died. Since then many more have died in and out of the hospitals." The paper said the grim situation would continue, "as long as the government feeds the nation on beri beri white rice and beri beri white rice flour morning noon and night," The WPA has called on Guyanese to sign a petition demanding a guaranteed supply of essential foods. The party said it was seeking at least 50,000 signatures.

During a recent symposium here, Mr Kennard explained that Guyana was faced with an economic crisis and that this had forced the government to restrict imports such as wheat flour to save valuable foreign exchange for the purchase of oil to keep the electricity plant, motor cars and trucks going. "The disappearance of foreign food from the supermarkets provided all the opportunity and the challenge to produce for survival," he said.

PPP BLAMES COUNTRY'S POOR ECONOMY ON CRIME

FL111856 Bridgetown CANA in English 1516 GMT 11 Mar 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 11, CANA -- The opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) has blamed the poor state of the Guyana economy for what it says is a growing crime rate here. "The crime rate is rising because the regime has not been able to properly and efficiently manage the sagging economy, and has been making a mess of the art of government for eighteen years now," the party said in a statement. It gave no supporting figures. Guyana continues to experience a chronic foreign exchange shortage which has forced curtailment of a wide range of goods, including food.

The Marxist party added "the other major generator of crime is the political crisis engulfing the society, where a barefaced minority anti-democratic party has foisted itself (with help from Anglo American imperialism and electoral fraud) onto the backs of the Guyanese people," the PPP said. Guyana is ruled by the People's National Congress (PNC) of President Forbes Burnham. The minority party said it was significant that the "vast majority of criminals are youths in their teens or early twenties."

"Since the youth constitute the majority of the Guyanese population, it means that they are obviously an alienated stratum and see no future for themselves in the present PNC scheme of things," the PPP said.

The Marxist party called on the PNC government to enact at once an anti-corruption law, to train and arm vigilante groups to enable them to combat armed gangsters and to purge the police force of all elements who may be found consorting or collaborating with criminals or committing crimes. The PPP also urged the overhaul of the recruiting and training policies of the police department.

COURT FREES THREE MEN CHARGED WITH TREASON

FL121615 Bridgetown CANA in English 1550 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 12, CANA -- Three men charged with plotting to overthrow the Guyana Government in 1980 have been freed.

Magistrate Hilbert Homer at the Leonora Magistrate's Court discharged the men after police prosecutor, Inspector Bertram Simon, told the court he had been instructed by the director of public prosecutions not to proceed against the men. The men Krishenpaul Audhan, Mahadeq Shivpersaud and Tickeram, younger brother of Ivan Sookram, who was freed by the high court last November 29 of a similar charge.

At the first preliminary enquiry in June 1980, the four men, along with Roland Cameron and Jinnah Rahamn, were freed but were later re-arrested and charged. Cameron was freed at the second enquiry, while Rahaman never turned up and has not been seen since.

BRIEFS

ENERGY MINISTER -- Georgetown, Guyana, March 15, CANA -- Guyana's minister of energy and natural resources, Hubert Jack, has left here for Canada to seek medical attention, according to government sources. Mr Jack will enter St Michael's Hospital in Canada for specialised treatment which is not available locally, the officials said. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1641 GMT 15 Mar 83 FL]